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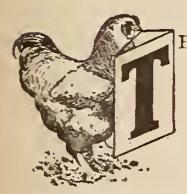
Would It Be Possible to Publish a Poultry Paper on a Christian Basis?



THAT IS the question indirectly propounded by a correspondent, who in closing a letter says:—"It has been a pleasure to me in reading your replies to young men and other inquirers to note your *religious* caution. Have wondered at times whether it would be possible to publish a poultry paper on a christian basis and make it pay financially. The ethics of the poultry business need toning up."

Those few sentences would serve as subjects for several good sized volumes, for they introduce ideas the discussion of which easily takes one all over a very large field. We can all agree as a rule on abstract questions and general propositions, but when it comes to concrete applications of these we fall out.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT.

Holding the two Light Brahma capons is Mr. A. F. Hunter. The photographer is Mr. Jesse Rutter, of Methuen, Mass., well known as a fancier of Fantail Pigeons. Of course Mr. H. would much rather be a background for White Wyandottes than for Light Brahmas, but if a sharp eye discovers that his pose is not a comfortable one, let the owner of the sharp eye consider that the birds are heavy and it took a long time to get ready for the picture.

To begin with, hardly any two persons see the same facts alike. This is true even of simple facts, and when it comes to looking at a lot of complex facts differences of opinion become inevitable. So what seems right to one seems wrong to another.

Take as an illustration of such a point the differences of opinion as to plucking foul feathers on exhibition birds. It may be rash to say anything that will renew controversy on that point—but the illustration suits so well that we use it. Whenever competition becomes strong the rule against this becomes obsolete. It cannot be enforced. Such practically obsolete rules, laws or ordinances are quite common in all forms of organizations governed by written laws. There is in effect one law on the books and another law of custom. To those who insist upon living up to the letter of the written law, those who observe the contrary custom, and also those who excuse them for it are alike wicked, dishonest, and unprincipled. Those who lay so much stress on rigid observance of written laws would insist that a poultry paper conducted upon a christian basis ought to hunt down, expose and drive out of the business every exhibitor who in any degree violated that law. We must say that their spirit has always seemed to us a spirit that was "different" from what is generally understood by a "christian" spirit, but their zeal is mostly genuine.

This is but one of many such matters upon which differences of opinion as to the policy of a poultry paper could arise, and do arise. Let us take another illustration:

Broadly speaking there are two general policies upon which poultry papers are conducted. One is that the paper should be conducted primarily for its readers, because it is the number and quality of subscribers that gives a paper standing and influence. The other is that because the advertisers contribute most to the financial support of the paper, therefore the whole influence and effort of the managers of the paper should be exerted to make the reading matter benefit the advertisers.

We say nothing here of the relative merits of these two policies. What we want to impress on the attention of readers, especially those who dislike the latter policy, and condemn those who pursue it, that from the point of view of those who consider it good policy it may appear also to be the *right* thing to do.

We think it probable that most publishers of poultry papers consider that their papers are on a "christian basis" to the extent of being conducted with due regard for the—sometimes conflicting — interests of their patrons, and of others whose interests might be affected by the attitude of the paper. We do not hesitate to say for ourselves that we try to deal honestly and fairly by all, and to be just when our action may incidentally work to the disadvantage of people we have no wish to injure as well as when it may indirectly give to other people we have no particular reason for wishing to favor, benefits which may be worth a good deal to them but for which they are not likely ever to give us anything in return.

While we say this we know perfectly well that a great many people think they have just cause for grievance against the paper, and that many more think they frequently find us biased and unfair. We have to deal with a great many people who regard a poultry paper as a mere medium for impressing on the readers of the paper the ideas that they want those readers to get; with a great many subjects upon which honest differences of opinion exist, and with many matters where "a hair, perhaps, divides the false and true" line of policy. So while it would be much pleasanter if our critics were all kind and our readers all approving, we accept the other condition as inevitable. We leave it to time to correct the impressions of some friends who grieve when our course does not please them, to heal the differences which either by inadvertent or unavoidable acts of ours arise between us and some other friends, and also to demonstrate to the interested public generally that it is to our credit rather than otherwise that certain persons and interests are hostile.

HOUSE FOR FIFTY BRAHMA CHICKENS.
At Mr. H. D. Smith's Farm, Norwell, Mass.

FIFTY LARGE LIGHT BRAHMA CHICKENS,
In 6x8 ft. House at Farrer Bros., W. Norwell, Mass.

Notwithstanding all that has been written of the matter by eye witnesses, there is still a good deal of skepticism among readers as to whether the growers of soft roasters really do keep so many chicks in such small houses. The above is a reproduction of a photograph of fifty nearly full grown chickens in the 6 x 8 ft. house which they have occupied since being taken from the brooders.

The correspondent quoted above commends the writer's "*religious* caution" in answering questions. We call it simple conscientious honesty of the kind that always ought to obtain between man and man, and we follow the same rule of utterance in other expressions of opinion as in answering questions. We try also, as far as it can be done without offensive or emasculating censorship to have all contributors avoid exaggeration and careless statement. In what, then, does our paper fall short of being conducted on what our correspondent terms a "christian basis?" What his answer would be is suggested, we think, in the last sentence of his which we quoted. He thinks "the ethics of the poultry business need toning up," and perhaps thinks we are delinquent in not making a vigorous campaign against all forms of wrong doing and all wrong doers. Perhaps he also has in mind the benefits to readers generally which many people suppose would follow if editors and others who possess a good many items of "inside" information which for various reasons are not made public would only publish them, and if editors would fully and freely express their opinions upon all the subjects they treat.

A great many people think that many things are left unsaid by editors of poultry papers because to say them would mean a loss of advertising patronage. A look through our letter files would convince the most skeptical of these people that nothing that could be vouched for, and that the public ought to know, was withheld for any such reason. Indeed the discerning reader need not go to our letter files to find such proof. If he will note the absence from our columns of certain advertising prominent in other papers, and recall opinions expressed in the paper he will easily see that these things stand to each other as cause and effect.

The fact is, that while an editor is in a position to learn *facts* as few other poultry-men can learn them, he is also in a position to get a vastly larger proportion of rumors and reports that cannot be verified. Often these things come to him in such a way that he feels quite sure that certain conclusions which he draws from the circumstantial evidence accumulating with him are correct, yet he cannot prove them, and hence would not be justified in publishing his suspicions with reference to the parties they concern. No editor has that intimate, accurate, and absolute knowledge of things occurring in the poultry world which a great many readers suppose they all possess; and as most editors

HOUSE FOR BREEDING STOCK.
At Jordan Farm, Hingham, Mass.
(See Round About Article).

occasionally find that the most persistent rumors and reports were wrong, they learn to be cautious in giving facts on authority which will not vouch for them openly.

Fairness and justice also often require that information shall be withheld because the effect of publishing it would injure some individuals or interests to an extent out of all proportion to any good that could possibly result from an exposure of wrong doing.

There is also another reason why many editors and writers refrain from combating ideas which they know are erroneous. That is because they have it daily demonstrated to them that with ninety-nine of a hundred poultry keepers the doing certain things thoroughly may depend upon an exaggerated idea of their importance, and the right use of things used for a certain purpose may depend upon their being costly. As an illustration of this, take the question as to the use of prepared poultry foods. Without exception these cost more than the foods used by poultrymen who prepare their own poultry foods need cost. Yet it is as much to the interest of consumers as a body as it is to that of manufacturers of these goods that poultry editors should not dilate upon the fact, and keep it always before the people; for while it is true that the skilful feeder who uses good judgment in preparing the foods he uses, and in his methods of feeding them, will raise chickens at less cost than if he bought a prepared food, it is also true that the feeder of little skill and faulty judgment nearly always does better and gets his results at less cost by using a good prepared food, because while he uses it he cannot help avoiding some of the most common mistakes of those who prepare their own poultry foods. Under the circumstances the most sensible attitude toward the relative merits of home or commercially prepared foods for an editor to take is to state the facts plainly when occasion requires, and for the rest do no more than try to keep out of the columns of the paper those too extravagant statements as to the actual merits of foods which are offered quite as generally by those who have obtained good results by using them as by manufacturers or agents.

The poultryman who can do just as well with plain cheap foods of his own compounding as any are doing with the prepared foods, not infrequently thinks that the editor who does not stand for the home made system against all others for all people and at all times is derelict in his duty and that his failure to do this, and his qualified recommendation of prepared foods are nothing but a compromise between the interests of readers and advertisers.

To carry illustrations drawn from feeding matters a point further. All prepared foods offered are not good, nor are all that are not positively injurious worth the prices asked for them, even when we consider a part of their value lies in saving the poultryman from mistakes. Suppose in the personal judgment of an editor a certain brand of food offered poultrymen is injurious, and suppose he publishes that as his opinion. It is an opinion which in nearly every case would be contradicted by other opinions which would carry just as much weight with the public at large. So the justification of his judgment would have to wait upon general experience with the food, and that in reality is what has to be, no matter who expresses opinions for or against an article. In short an editor has to exercise the same caution — call it religious if you like — in dealing with all questions upon which he must decide either to refrain from acting or to act, and if to act, how, that our correspondent commends in the writer's replies to the questions of correspondents; and it is this very necessary exercise of caution in regard to other matters than those which concern only the interest of the reader that many construe as subservience to special interests, and failure to conduct his paper on a "christian basis."

We do not know just how far the correspondent whose comments suggested this article would go in making out a case of "unchristian" conduct against this paper or others, but we do know that some people think that it is the duty of the poultry press to "expose" *all* wrong doers, and by so exposing them to punish them for their faults. We do not think those who take this position realize that as the poultry business is constituted such an exposure in a poultry paper of standing comes pretty near meaning the ruin of the poultry interests of the party exposed. It is in effect a "cruel and unusual punishment" administered outside of the law, inflicting upon one who suffers by it penalties out of all proportion to his offence. We credit even those who at times have been most insistent for the exposure of some shortcoming of a poultry breeder or fancier with being too humane to want this if they appreciated all its consequences.

Again we would like to ask any who think the failure of the poultry papers to make themselves a terror to evil doers shows a lack of righteous zeal if christian doctrine does not have a great deal in it of charity and forgiveness?

For many of the evils that exist in the poultry business—and the ethics of the business are better rather than worse than the general business ethics of the time—the beginnings of correction must be made outside of the poultry press. There are evils connected with the showing of fowls, some of which are in themselves wrong, and some wrong or not, as one holds the rule which they infringe to be in actual force or obsolete; but as long as poultry associations are not disposed to deal with such evils effectively, agitation in the press does more harm than good, especially if directed against individuals. Periodically we have agitation of such matters in some journals, but they come up in the dull season when there seems to be a dearth of interesting matter, and to date these movements have without exception "petered out" without accomplishing anything.

Buyers of fowls and eggs frequently have just cause for complaint against persons from whom they buy, but it does not follow that the whole matter ought to be aired in the poultry papers. The general policy of poultry papers is to endeavor to secure a satisfactory adjustment of such matters between the parties interested, and when circumstances warrant or require that an advertiser should notbe granted space in the paper not to advertise that fact, but to let it speak for itself in a negative way. This we believe is good ethics and good altruism. It certainly is in line with the practice of the class of lawyers who aim to serve their clients' best interests rather than to make business for the courts, and to make themselves conspicuous in sensations.

Finally, we believe that not only this paper, but poultry papers as a class, come much nearer being conducted on what might be called a "christian basis" today than ever before. This may seem a strange statement to those who deplore the "commercialism" of some modern papers, but with all that can be said against this (and no one can like it less than we do), we still hold that it is as much better than the commercialism of the previous

HOUDAN PULLET.
C. E. Petersen, Franklin, Me.

era of poultry journalism as the leading papers of today are better than those of fifteen to twenty years ago. It is not fifteen years since the writer sent a dollar to a poultry paper for three half pound packages of the only absolutely pure Dalmation insect powder to be had in the country, and received the three in a parcel which wrapped in heavy paper for mailing weighed exactly nine ounces, and found the powder absolutely identical in appearance, and, as determined by use, in quality, with the article he bought in a local drug store for forty cents a pound good weight.

Readers of this paper familiar with the poultry journals of that time will readily guess what paper that was, and will remember that that paper systematically "worked" its readers in such ways for the special benefit of its proprietor as no paper today would attempt to do. We have by no means reached the ideal poultry paper on a perfect basis, but we certainly are making sensible progress, and results as we go seem to us to indicate that the best paying paper of the not distant future will be the paper conducted on principles which our correspondent would—if we understand his use of the word—describe as a christian basis.

The old style of narrow and selfish commercialism died a natural death. It passed out of existence so noiselessly and quietly that no one noticed its departure, and many did not miss it for several years. The latter day commercialism, while essentially narrow minded and — we think — necessarily short lived, is liberal in many ways, and in its own eyes justifies its position toward its readers by giving them vastly more information of real value in a year than any one of the others did in a decade—and that for one-half or even one-quarter of the price.

Were we to indulge in prophecy as to the fate of the present commercialism in poultry journalism we would predict that as readers become more and more impatient with it, it will gradually be eliminated. It is an open secret that some of the publishers who have made best use of it in building up their papers would like to change their policy, for they find it a hard master, and one that drives them into no end of embarrassments.

The Gist of It.

It is not a question of single or double matings, but the question of what type of male and female will most readily produce the results we desire in the line of color and shape. When that question has been settled to our satisfaction it matters little what name is given such matings, or whether correct in theory or not. We aim to produce certain results in the production of fancy qualities, and must make the matings that will bring them about. And where a single mating will not do it, must use the double mating, or any mating that will produce the results we desire. The color tendencies of any variety must be "humored," and not combatted if success is to be obtained in the production of their best quality; and we must study such tendencies in order to handle them successfully, and our matings must be made to accord with their peculiarities, when success is most certain to crown our efforts. — GEO. D. HOLDEN, in *Poultry Herald*.

ROW OF HOUSES FOR LIGHT BRAHMA ROASTING CHICKENS.
At Jordan Farm, Hingham, Mass.
(See Round About Article).

A Few Stray Thoughts on the Rhode Island Red Question.

TO THE "initiated" it would seem little short of lunacy to attempt to reason with such prejudiced people as most of those seem to be who are so anxious to "suppress" the Rhode Island Reds. Among our recent critics one claims that they have dark pinfeathers; another, a dealer in market poultry, admits that "pinfeathers are as slightly conspicuous in the Reds as in the White Wyandottes;" one says they are not as good layers as White Wyandottes, referring as proof to western experiment station reports, where Reds are nearly unknown; another admits them to be first class layers and good poultry; one finds their skin bluish; another considers it "richest yellow," etc. Most of these arguments (?) come from one of two sources — either from those ignorant of poultry matters *in general*, or else from those who find in the Reds a very strong rival for their own favorite breed.

Perhaps it won't be entirely idle to offer a few suggestions, with the hope of bringing the discussion to a point where reason will replace prejudice, and adherence to facts seem more discreet than arguments tainted with personal interests.

Although the Reds are increasing in popularity, reports from breeders all over the country tell of larger sales than ever before: they are not in a "boom" period, but instead are *steadily moving forward on their own merits, and in spite of the steady opposition of many influential breeders of older varieties, and numerous writers on poultry topics.* The booming period is past,—they are here to stay, and such twaddle as we hear of blue skins, black pinfeathers, poor layers, etc., is written either by those who are not acquainted with representative flocks of the breed or else by those who wilfully distort facts. I have visited scores of dealers, both retail and wholesale, and I have heard *very* little complaint of the color of skin, quality of meat, or presence of dark pinfeathers in R. I. Red carcasses. The only complaint that I have heard is that many strains of Reds are too small, that they get "hard" too young, and that the smaller strains are "hatchet breasted."

I believe these to be just criticisms, and I feel sure from the attitude taken by nearly every member of the R. I. Red Club, that the increase in weight given by the new Standard will soon overcome this difficulty. It exists in comparatively few flocks of fanciers or market poultrymen, but rather in the flocks of egg farmers where the meat side of the breed has not been developed.

I have found on the other hand many dealers who especially praised the richness of the yellow skin and the excellent carcasses of the Reds. In regard to size, I have found in visiting scores of R. I. Red breeders that in most cases they are bred as large as Wyandottes, often as large as Rocks. At the 1903 Boston show nearly all the cocks exhibited weighed above eight and one-half pounds, and several were between ten and eleven pounds, and the cockerels ranged from seven to nine and one-half. In my own experience I have found a tendency to an increase in weight each year. After the action of the club, (increasing the weight) I began weighing our birds, and of twelve cocks all but two were above weight, some as heavy as ten and a quarter pounds—the grandsire of six of them weighed seven and three-quarters pounds— a number of hens of the same ancestry weighed from seven to eight pounds.

A WINNING RHODE ISLAND RED FEMALE.
Frank D. Read, Fall River, Mass.

We don't know what the R. I. Red breeders think of this shape; but here is the first drawing or photograph we have seen that showed a shape that was neither Wyandotte or P. Rock, and seemed to fit the idea conveyed by the words of the Standard description.— ED.

In regard to "disqualifying Reds as mongrels," I think it perhaps worth while to note that although the Reds are a composite breed they are no more so than the Barred Rock or the Buff Rock or Wyandotte. I have seen scores of Barred (?) Rocks in the yards of egg farmers with no trace of barring in the flight feathers, also very dark (sometimes black) legs, and in the same flocks I have noticed small smutty looking Reds, all claimed to be pure blood. Such stock bears about the same relation to a fancier's pure bloods that a menu does to a dinner—simply a reminder.

A WINNING R. I. RED COCK.
Frank D. Read, Fall River, Mass.
Winner of shape and color specials, and of the $100 champion cup at Boston, 1903. Weight, 10 lb. 2 oz.

There is another favorite comment with the would be critics, to the effect that Red breeders don't agree on the ideal color. The editor of the *Reliable Poultry Journal* goes considerably out of his way to remark that we are "totally unable to define or describe the color desired." I wonder if Mr. Curtis ever read the Barred Rock standard, and if so, if he ever tried to imagine what he would try to breed to fit that standard of color *providing he had never seen a Barred Rock?* Anyone who has given the matter thought, knows that it is impossible to describe color accurately, and a careful perusal of the various Standards will convince one that this is the case. Mr. Latham's article in March *Reliable Poultry Journal*, is particularly interesting on this point, as it shows that even "doctors disagree" on such questions.

It was rather gratifying at the recent Boston show to hear several prominent breeders of other breeds admit that there was more uniformity of color among the Reds there exhibited than there was among either the Buff Wyandottes or the Barred Rocks. One Buff breeder remarked that the Reds seemed to differ only in shades of one color, while the Buff Wyandotte class gave shades of yellow, orange and red. In connection with this point, I looked over one flock of over four hundred Reds and selected the darkest and the lightest, but I could not find as much contrast as I found between the color of a Barred Rock hen, cockerel bred, and a Barred Rock cock pullet bred, which I bought of one of the best known breeders of Barred Rocks in the country, and yet we don't hear any great cry of "mongrels," and "don't breed true," applied to the Barred Rocks.

Rhode Island Reds do not, as a rule, breed as true as either white or black breeds, but compared with other colored breeds I think there is not much difference. There are two very good reasons why so many flocks of Reds lack uniformity of color. First, a great many small breeders who have not attended our large shows, have been breeding them. They have never seen approved specimens, and on account of the great popularity of the Reds they have sold eggs for hatching without proper selection and mating of breeding stock, which is a serious mistake with a new breed, and has of course helped to increase the lack of uniformity of color. The new Standard, which is much more explicit than the old, will help this difficulty very much. Second, every breeder knows that Buff and Red breeds do not reproduce with the same uniformity that most other colored breeds do: in fact, in some of the well established strains of Buff breeds there are various shades of buff, from deep "golden buff" (reddish), to a pale yellowish buff.

At the last meeting of the Rhode Island Red Club, the discussion of the new Standard occupied a large part of the time. Every point was fully discussed, and in all that discussion by about sixty prominent breeders, there was hardly a point on which any material difference of opinion existed. The three things upon which there was a slight difference of opinion, were very easily settled, as they seemed, with one exception, rather minor points. The first, and by far the most important point, was the question of increase of weight. Several breeders claimed that the Reds had made their reputation on the weights given in the old Standard, and it seemed to them best to stick to it. By far the larger part of the club favored an increase, "at least to the Wyandotte size," because nearly all the prominent breeders had found the old Standard too small for a general utility bird. After a full discussion all objections which had been made to an increase in weight were withdrawn.

The other two points were,—1st—the question of disqualifying for white in ear lobes;

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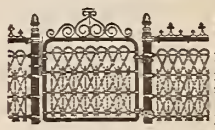
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and 2d—whether ticking in hackle of female should be called for. On the former question several members thought any trace of white in ear lobes should disqualify; others differed. A vote showed that a majority favored disqualifying for "more than half white." Regarding the ticking in hackle, quite a number were opposed to it for two reasons; first, because it involves a tendency to black lacing in the hackle of male, thus calling for double mating; and secondly, because females without ticking are in general cleaner in undercolor, i. e., have less tendency to smut.

The final decision was, that a slight ticking was *desirable*, but not *essential*, i. e., females otherwise superior but without ticking should win. One thing about the meeting was especially noteworthy, viz., the general harmony and agreement on all vital points. Everyone had his ideals, but they were all essentially the same. I doubt very much if a more complete agreement on all points relating to a new Standard could be found in any other breeders' club — a fact which shows a pretty definitely understood breed.

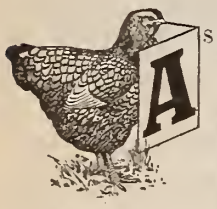
"What's All This Row About, Anyway?"

When one stops to think that in both 1902 and 1903, the Rhode Island Reds outnumbered the Barred Rocks, and that at both these shows the Reds were the second largest class entered, the popularity of the breed among fanciers can't be questioned. If one will take the trouble to visit the large poultry farms of eastern Massachusetts he will find in almost every instance where Reds have been in fair competition with other breeds they have been found more profitable. The proprietor of one of the largest poultry plants in this section recently told me that in comparison with White Wyandottes, Barred Rocks, and White Leghorns, the Reds were in the lead as layers, and still farther in the lead as regards sale of eggs for hatching and breeding stock.

There seems to be a general impression among poultrymen that the Single Comb Reds are rather more prolific layers than the Rose Comb Reds; on the other hand the Rose Comb variety seem, generally, to have broader, deeper breasts, i. e., better meat type. I should like to hear an expression of opinion from breeders on this point. Meanwhile let us stick to facts in our criticisms; if the breed has merits let's recognize them; if they have defects, as all breeds have, let's make an effort to remedy them.

W. J. DRISKO,
Malden, Mass. Sec'y R. I. Red Club.

Mr. Baerman Pays His Respects to the Critics of the Reds.



AS CONCISELY as possible I would refer to the communications in the issue of March 15th, in which my name appears quite prominently.

I am not posing as the best informed man in the country on these questions, but I have had my experiences in poultry raising, and I have made some observations. I have bred quite extensively, at different times, two leading varieties of the American class and one of the Asiatic, and I have given them all up for the wonderful birds that I now have, birds that for practical purposes, leave almost nothing to be desired, though improvements can and will be made in fancy points; birds whose meat is superior to that of any fowl that has ever graced my table; birds that lay more eggs without any forcing or petting or coaxing than any others I ever had would produce in response to my greatest efforts; birds that, possessing all these good qualities, are my companions and friends spontaneously and delightfully, while all others have reluctantly yielded their confidence or have but patiently submitted to caresses; the only birds that have fully satisfied me, more than meeting every expectation, making me intensely enthusiastic in their behalf.

This marketman seems a sensible, clear minded man, and his experience should cause an awakening among the friends of the Reds. The ignorance of people in general as to what constituted a good Rhode Island Red, and a demand for the birds on account of their known good qualities, have enabled men with little conscience to send out for high class stock any birds that had a few red feathers, until there may be found throughout the country thousands of birds called by this name that are no more like Rhode Island Reds of good type than they are like many other breeds of fowls; and now the true friends of the Reds, the large minded men who care more for the future of the breed than for a dollar or two at the present time, should do everything in their power to prevent a continuance of this practice, and to cause only the best stock to be distributed. It was not only dishonest, but poor policy on the part of any breeder, to sell stock or eggs that would bring discredit to the breed, and dishonor to himself.

We must not be discouraged because this practice has made possible the experience of this marketman, for all the American breeds, having come up from small beginnings, have been handicapped in the same way while the more honorable and far sighted men were developing the qualities that have made those breeds famous.

This gentleman who writes as a marketman is in the main clear and unanswerable, excepting by the rejoinder that his experience has not been with the best Reds (and this he indeed admits as possibly true), but there is one weak point in his conclusions. That is in the matter of the so called breast meat. Where do we find this "breast" meat? Is it not along the breast bone, or keel of the fowl? The white meat is all along this bone, this keel, from stem to stern, and the bird with the longer keel, the breadth being equal, would of course have the more breast meat; and if the bird with the longer keel has less breadth of beam than his rival, the two might be on a par regarding the amount of the white meat either could furnish his greedy master. But I know there are flocks of Reds averaging as broad and deep in form as any variety of the American class that ever grew, and, hence, with their longer keel, having more breast meat than the latter.

I trust this gentleman will also allow me to say that I am not yet convinced that I am wrong when I say that, as a general rule, the whitest birds have not the yellowest skin. I am not impugning any statement of his, for I know he is honest and fair, he perhaps having had experience with birds that furnish an exception to this rule.

Mr. W. Wyandotte.—"When I hear all these good people abusing us it makes me feel wretched, and so sorry for those who have thought so highly of us."

Mrs. W. Wyandotte.—"It doesn't disturb me in the least, my dear. Most of those who find fault with us now used to be as loud in their praise of us as they are now in blame. Poultrymen are very fickle."

This champion that has come up out of the west will receive some attention, merely because he offers a chance to say what modesty forbade my saying without some good excuse. He makes four comparisons of the Red with another breed—first, regarding table qualities; second, regarding size; third, in the matter of pin feathers; fourth, respecting egg production. A fifth might also be deduced, a question of even type, and, indeed, even a sixth, in the reference to "mongrels," for the writer could not really have forgotten the mongrels that were looking from their high pedestal down upon the mongrel Reds.

As to the table qualities of the breed, my actual knowledge covers only the birds from my own yards, but I have heard much of its excellence, and am surprised at what the marketman says. This much I know: I have never raised a Rhode Island Red that had a "bluish or slaty" skin, and I never raised any other fowls that made such an even lot in shape and yellow color when dressed for the market, as these Reds; and I never heard as much praise for any other fowl I ever sold as for these. And, incidentally, I may say there must be other good ones in the country, since my birds were originally bred from stock secured from several different breeders. Everyone speaks of the juiciness of the meat, as compared with that of some other varieties, and of the fine flavor, partaking in this latter quality, I believe, of the nature of the Red Indian Game and the Chittagong — two ancestors equal to any that ever produced any other mongrel of the American class, all varieties of which are "mongrels," as we all know.

As to size, many breeders have Rhode Island Reds as large as the birds this western writer mentions. After reading his letter, I went out and weighed some of my birds. The first prize hen weighed exactly eight pounds; the second prize hen weighed eight pounds and two ounces; the third prize hen lacked only two ounces of eight pounds; and two sisters weighed respectively seven pounds fifteen ounces, and eight pounds one ounce each. These hens are not two years old, and in such good laying condition that they are averaging three eggs apiece every four days, and have not been broody this season. I have several cockerels that weigh eight and a half pounds, and certainly are not fat, having only the same rations as the laying hens, and I have just weighed six pullets less than a year old, three of which weigh seven and a half pounds each, two seven pounds each, and one seven and three-fourths pounds, all being in the best laying condition.

The matter of pin feathers can be disposed of in a single line. White pin feathers on a yellow skin will be more conspicuous than buff feathers on the same yellow skin. This fact gives all buff fowls, or red birds with rich buff undercolor, an advantage over white birds—that is, those having yellow skin. And it is proper to say that no pin feathers on the bodies of good Rhode Island Reds show any darker color than this rich dark buff.

In experiments in egg production, the stations of the west probably lacked the best Reds. My own experiences with this breed have placed it ahead of any fowl I have ever raised, or ever heard of, and I have heard of other people that have been surprised and delighted in the same way. I am simply astonished every day at the staying powers of these birds. I have hens in their second year that have never been broody, and, it seems to me, they have laid all the time. Two were hatched July 15, 1902, and were laying when they took first and second prizes at Madison Square six

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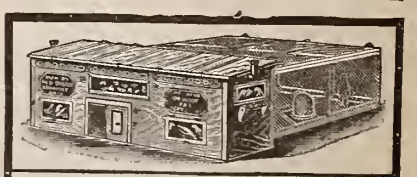

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GEO. A. CHAPIN, Ludlow, Mass.

months later. They laid almost an egg apiece every day all winter, and large as they were, never stopped at all for hot weather. Two of their sisters were with them in a pen, and in July the four once laid four eggs a day for five days in succession, after having laid steadily all winter, and never having wanted to sit. These two prize birds are now in my pen No. 4, which contains nine females, and one day last week laid nine eggs, and then eight eggs a day for three days in succession. At the same time the thirty females that now compose five pens laid twenty-eight eggs a day for three days. I would say, too, that these birds have not been forced. On the contrary, they have had no mashes or green bones this season. From the middle of January to the first of March thirty-three birds averaged twenty-six eggs a day. This is astonishing work, in my opinion, and I often feel that the hens cannot stand it, but they keep right on the year through, and seem healthy and happy.

And here perhaps another superior characteristic of this breed should be mentioned—its excellent nature as a sitter and mother. Though, in the main, the birds that I have handled have not been persistently broody, yet, when they do sit they are the quietest, steadiest and most reliable birds of any I have ever had, and the truest and tenderest mothers. This I assert with emphasis, as their superiority in these respects has been very marked. I may say too, with all modesty, that I am fairly well qualified to judge of this matter, having raised in a single season with thoroughbreds of the American class for both hatchers and brooders, six hundred thoroughbred chickens, and one hundred and fifty thoroughbred Bronze turkeys.

One other point in this western champion's letter should perhaps be noticed. He says that the Reds exhibited in New York were the pick of the choicest flocks, and asks, "Why should they not be even in color?" I would say that, of the sixty-two specimens of the Rose Comb Reds, including a display cage of twelve, exhibited at the New York show, one breeder alone supplied forty of the number, as even a lot in all points as ever found a place in a show room, whatever the variety exhibited; and, to my personal knowledge, that exhibitor raised but about two hundred birds from which those forty were selected.

Now, let it be noticed, that I have not mentioned the name of any breed of fowls as opposed to the Reds, and am not trying to cry down the good qualities of any variety. All have their good points and their admirers, and I merely wish to go on record as predicting that the best of the Reds will soon come to the front in place of those that have heretofore been distributed, and that as soon as people in general begin to find that the Reds can be bred true to a desirable and beautiful type the excellent qualities of the breed will give them a position on a level with the best fowls the world has ever produced. The Rhode Island Red Club is now working in the right direction, and from this time forth we may hope and expect that good men will take hold in earnest in the development and distribution of the best of these birds. F. D. BAERMAN.

Dunellen, N. J., March 30, 1903.

From a Modern Apostle to the Red Men.

R. T. L. PLATT, in the March 15th number of FARM-POULTRY, tries to criticise Mr. Baerman's statement about Rhode Island Reds. He evidently is talking only for one purpose— namely, to emphasize the value of White Wyandottes.

Mr. Platt, living in Ohio, must be excused for ignorance in regard to Reds. In the first place he refers to the Rhode Island Reds as the mongrel Red, which statement I challenge. The Reds have a far longer ancestry than the White Wyandottes, made from crosses or sports. (?) The Reds breed truer than the Plymouth Rocks, and do not throw white sports, as it is claimed the Silver Wyandottes do; neither do they throw black fowl, as White Wyandottes have. You had better wait a little, Mr. Platt, and study your own breed's defects. You challenge Mr. Baerman's statement that they can be bred as large as the Wyandotte. Now come — what do you know about it, anyway? Anybody that knows nothing about Reds should not be doubting such a statement, coming from the pen of Mr. Baerman.

I tell you, Messrs. Poultrymen, the Reds breed as large as White Wyandottes, and our standard calls for practically the Wyandotte weight. As for pin feathers, well, you make me laugh. Either your fowl must have white skin, or else your white pin feathers swear at the yellow skin. The Reds have salmon or buff pin feathers of the same color as their yellow skin. White pin feathers do detract from the carcass when dressed, Mr. Platt's statement to the contrary notwithstanding. Of course your western experimental stations' reports, put the White Wyandotte near the top; they do not yet know what a Rhode Island Red is any more than you appear to.

Twenty-four Red pullets exhibited at Madison Square this year were shown by one exhibitor. The exhibit was noted for the even color of these pullets. Whether you have "no quarrel with him (Mr. Baerman) as long as the White Wyandotte is not infringed upon," or not, you will have all the quarrel any man wants if you write another such article about the Reds. "Disqualify the Rhode Island Reds as mongrels," would you? Well, try it first on your black producing White Wyandottes. I well remember the White Wyandotte breeders trying to find an ideal shaped female in a recent Boston show. They couldn't find her in the class, but finally found one in the White Plymouth Rock class. The Reds have a shape of their own, not to be found in the Wyandotte or Plymouth Rock class.

I read with regret Mr. Silloway's article in the same paper. The only redeeming feature in the article is the statement that "All's fair in war." This sentence in itself is an admission that a war is on between the White Wyandottes and the Rhode Island Reds. The statement further partly excuses Mr. Silloway for making unfair conclusions.

If it is war they want, Mr. Editor, they can have it, although I assure you the "Red men" are not anxious for anything except fair argument and what belongs to them. They refuse to take advantage of "All's fair in war;" they are too game sports and too earnest breeders to lose their heads that way.

The writer would like to ask Mr. Silloway where the most meat is on a fowl? On the breast (wish bone), or along the keel bone? Of course he will answer that if the keel bone is long enough, the most meat is there. This being so, then the longer bodies of the Reds gives them more meat. Their bodies being also deep, gives a good length of wish bone with its accompanying meat. You can have your blocky Wyandotte if you wish, but we prefer our long keels to cut great slices of meat off of. The color of the Red's skin is not bluish or slaty, as your correspondent states, but yellow, and the pin feathers are also yellow, causing no contrast.

I am afraid the five Red cockerels you refer to, Mr. Silloway, are the only true Reds you have seen; certainly you are mistaken about the slaty cast of the skin, and your further statement that "birds bearing yellow skin are not generally distributed," simply shows lack of knowledge. I can show you thousands and thousands of Reds, all with yellow skin. This is characteristic of the breed.

You could not make a Little Compton poultry farmer breed a white fowl. They will tell you white is a sign of weakness. And has it not ever been thus? What about showing the white feather? The White Wyandottes can show the white feather all they wish; we don't care, but you can never make us show the white feather. Dr. N. B. ALDRICH.

Fall River, Mass.

EXPERIENCE IN RAISING CHICKS IN BROODERS IN 1902.

Five Dollar Prize Article.

MANY people who have never raised chicks in brooders seem to deem it but "chicken play," but I have learned by actual experience in the past year, that it is naught but eternal vigilance that brings success in raising chicks, whichever method one may pursue.

Early in April, 1902, I placed my first brood, consisting of thirty-seven chicks, in a good fifty chick capacity outdoor brooder, taking great pains to keep them dry and comfortably warm, which was done by keeping the floor covered with fine dry litter, and keeping the temperature under the hover at 95 degrees.

For the first few days I scattered oat flakes in their litter two or three times a day, and it was a pleasure to hear their contented little "tweet tweet" as they picked and scratched for their food. The drinking fountain was kept supplied with fresh water. I soon discovered that the fountain, if kept inside the brooder, must be set level and not leak, otherwise the chicks would get drabbled, which is no help to rapid growth. I raised every one of the first brood without the loss of a chick.

The second and third broods I raised in the same kind of brooders, (which were the Von Culin make), except that they were the one hundred chick size, instead of fifty, putting from seventy-five to ninety chicks in each. But I learned by costly experience that if any one would raise chicks successfully, they must not crowd them nor keep more than forty or fifty together, no matter how large the brooder. Where I had seventy-five together they kept dying off one by one until there were only about fifty left, and where I had ninety together in one brooder, they died off until only six remained. Yet I think the weather had a great deal to do with the trouble in the latter case, for it rained nearly every day until they were four weeks old—and any poultry raiser knows that the first four weeks is the most critical period of a chick's life. If they can be kept strong and healthy until a month old they stand a good chance to reach maturity; but they cannot be kept thrifty without being kept dry and having plenty of sunshine, pure air, pure water, good food, grit, and plenty of room to run around and exercise their wings. It has been my experience that it is much better to keep only twenty-five or thirty chicks in the so called fifty chick brooders, and not more than fifty in the one hundred chick brooders.

Cleaning the brooders was another matter of no small importance. When the weather

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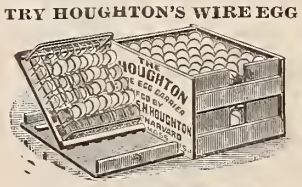

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would permit I cleaned all my brooders thoroughly once a week. If left longer than that I found it to be quite a difficult task to clean them properly. I always did my chicks' "house cleaning" on bright pleasant days if possible, so they would not get wet or chilled. When I was obliged to clean them on a rainy or cloudy day, if at all, I opened the basement door, allowing the chicks shelter and warmth around their "furnace," until their home was again in order. In cleaning, I first scraped off all the droppings; then scrubbed with water and an old broom, sometimes putting a little carbolic acid in the water to kill any disease germs that might be lurking there. Also washed the cloth on the hovers about once a month, adding a little acid to the rinsing water, and drying them thoroughly before replacing in the brooders. Nothing is more detrimental to the health of chicks than filthy brooders, and naught will dampen the enthusiasm of a poultry raiser more than a lot of sickly drooping chicks; but a yard full of happy thrifty chicks is a joy to behold.

I made little runways for my small chicks, in which they found all their outdoor exercise until one or two weeks old, unless the weather was exceptionally fine. The runs were twelve feet long, by one foot high, and one and a half or two feet wide; used boards for the sides, and covered the tops with poultry netting. In each of these I usually kept a herring box filled with ashes or road dust for the chicks to scratch and wallow in as a preventive from lice, and kept a board over that part of the runs to keep the dust dry.

I had the brooders and runs moved to a new spot of ground every three or four days, so the chicks could have fresh clean grass to pick; for such small runs get foul in a very short time. As the chicks got older and stronger I let them out into the main yard, (after the dew was off in the morning), where they could wander at will, having plenty of little shelters fixed up in different places in the yard, where they could seek refuge from sudden showers. These shelters were simply a wide board leaned up in or against a strong bush or other support, shedding to the windward. Such precautions have saved me the lives of many chicks.

Another thing I learned was that where there were two or more broods of about the same age, the brooders should be placed at quite a distance from each other, or else be separated by one inch mesh poultry netting; for the chicks, if allowed to do so, will all crowd into one brooder, if possible, thereby smothering or trampling to death many of their number.

One of my brooders was placed on a spot of ground where a skunk had been caught and killed; nearly every one of that brood died before they were four weeks old; I concluded that they were poisoned by the scent, for their flesh turned black and their wings were swollen and the skin puffed up in little blisters.

For my early broods I dug earth worms for the first two or three weeks, which gave them plenty of exciting exercise as long as the worms lasted. Of course it is not practicable to dig them for a large number of chicks; but for a few early ones I think it pays, for it helps to start rapid growth, and they seem to like them so much better than other animal foods; besides the later hatched chicks can find grasshoppers and other insects which the early ones cannot get.

Now I would like to say a few words in regard to moving the chicks from brooders to coops. It has been my experience that chicks need some artificial heat during the night until six or eight weeks old, unless the weather is very warm. If the chicks are not comfortably warm they will huddle so closely into one side or corner of the coop that many of them will be smothered in a very short time. When my chicks were about two months old I put them into a kind of mock brooder of home invention and manufacture. We made them of dry goods boxes that were about two feet square and three feet high, putting in a floor, (which could be easily taken out to clean) about a foot from the ground. Made a shed roof and a hinged door which could be closed at night: then they were safe from all four footed vermin.

I doubt not that my experiences are simply a repetition of those of older poultry raisers; but I only hope that some one who is just embarking in the poultry business this year may profit by my experience as I have profited by those of others.

Mrs. J. B. LUCE.

Cherry Creek, N. Y.

A Second Year's Experience With Brooders.

MY EXPERIENCE in brooding chicks during 1902, which was my second year in poultry raising, is somewhat as follows:

The brooder used is a hot air one of my own construction 24 in. x 30 in., and 7 in. high in the chick chamber, with a square removable hover 12 x 12 in., which is placed in the center of the chamber, thus making an improvised double compartment brooder which is allowed to remain for the first two weeks, then removed, thus converting the chamber into a single room. The lamp room is 32 x 34 in., 12 in. high, with galvanized iron roof; immediately above this is a two inch space, then the chick floor proper, which is of wood. Before placing the chicks in, a piece of double thickness burlapping is spread over the floor, and on this a litter of sand and sometimes bran. In cleaning the top chamber is lifted off during the first feed while all chicks are out, the burlap removed and shaken well, then placed to air until next morning, and a fresh one, taken off the day previous, is put on. This operation requires about three minutes, and saves the necessity of scraping, etc.

My brooder house is 15 x 50 ft. divided into 10 pens, each 5 x 9 ft. with a tight floor of boards on which is placed about three inches of litter and sand for scratching, and in which all the feed is placed for them. Outside yards are 5 x 30 ft. The feed is a dry one of my own mixing, composed of cracked wheat and corn, steel cut oat meal, millet and canary seed, rape seed, ground bone, oyster shells and charcoal, and beef scraps. No soft feed is fed on the place at all, except once or twice a week boiled potatoes are mashed up and mixed with bran without water. Milk is always fed when obtainable.

Chicks are usually put into the brooder about six hours after the last hatched chicks have become dry, and kept therein until the next morning without any feed or water. This brings some of them up to 48 to 60 hours old before receiving any feed other than the sand on the brooder bottom.

The temperature under the inner hover is kept at about 90 degrees, and that in the outer one is about 80, which furnishes a variation of sufficient extent to meet the desires of all the chicks, and as all probably know a chick will soon find the quarter of the brooder that meets with its requirements, some of the more hardy even preferring the doorway during the forepart of the evening.

The first hatch came off March 20, was a 42 per cent of the fertile eggs from Leghorn and Wyandotte range stock. They commenced hatching on the morning of the 20th day; 76 chicks were placed in brooder No. 1 at 9 A. M., and kept therein that day. They were fed the next morning with the dry feed before mentioned, at the rate of four times daily. As soon as this is picked up they are all made to return into the brooder to warm up, and after an hour or two are again let out; this of course only applies to when the room temperature is about 50 degrees, and as soon as bunching commences, are required to again seek the shelter of the brooder. By going through this operation until they have learned to return of their own accord when cold, I succeeded last year in preventing any chicks from getting chilled and developing bowel trouble.

I tried the small pen plan around the door of the brooder, but find that there are always some chicks which will not go inside the door of a brooder as long as another chick is outside for it to get against. I find there are some which will persist in staying out until they are thoroughly chilled, and then when this condition has been reached, the usual consequence is the result,—bowel complaint, with death always following. Hence my plan is to teach them to go in, which is quickly learned. Water is first given on the second day, and kept before them from that time on.

This is the method uniformly pursued with each of my eight hatches during the season of 1902. The result of these several hatches after they were placed in brooders, was as follows:—I merely mentioning the circumstances of hatching in two instances for the purpose of supporting my reason for attributing the losses in those instances to that which I consider the cause:

Hatch No. 1 commenced to pip on the evening of the 19th day, and were all out by the morning of the 21st day. March 20, 76 chicks were placed in brooder No. 1. The loss in brooding this lot was two chicks; cause, weak constitution.

Hatch No. 2 was a 49 per cent, and 81 chicks were placed into brooder No. 2 under the same conditions as that of No. 1. The loss was 6 chicks, none however, from bowel complaint.

Hatch No. 3 was the same per cent, and 75 chicks were put into brooder No. 3. This lot did not commence to hatch before the morning of the 21st day. The same method of care and feed was pursued, but from the very start this lot seemed determined to go under. They seemed to have no stamina and no interest in life. They ate well the first meal of the day, and were bright usually when first emerging from the brooder, but soon after seemed to want to stand around and mope; of this batch No. 3 all died but 15.

Hatch No. 4 was a 70 per cent one, and consisted of 90 chicks. This lot was put into two brooders, 45 chicks in each. No unusual trouble was experienced with this lot beyond the usual loss of weakly members, which was 12.

Hatch No. 5 also came off one day late, and like that of No. 4, was divided into two lots and put into two brooders. The loss of this lot was 85 per cent.

No. 6, hatched May 10, was a 75 per cent, and the death rate was about 15 per cent.

No. 7, hatched May 20, about same as No. 6, except that the death rate was about 20 per cent.

No. 8, hatched June 4; the loss was 30 per cent.

My conclusions, arrived at from the foregoing experience, and somewhat strengthened by the season before, are these: That given good eggs and good weather conditions, a good batch will result, provided the incubator has been operated properly. Fortified thus far, the chances are that with reasonable care in brooding and feeding, the chicks can be raised successfully and easily, in season, and that the percentage of loss will be nominal. This condition existed with batches 1 and 2. With No. 3 the eggs were set March 22, and the weather record shows that during the twenty-one days of incubation it rained on nineteen of them. The atmosphere was very damp, as was also the room where the machines stood, which was one end of the brooder house. The loss of all but fifteen chicks of this batch I attribute to the above condition — too damp weather during incubation, and also the hatch being one day late in coming off. Of this lot, only two died from bowel trouble, the general condition seeming to be a lack of vitality. I gave them all attention possible. Then No. 4 came, and the loss was very light. Then came No. 5 with almost the identical conditions existing as that of No. 3, and the results were about the same.

As the season advanced, the death rate seemed to increase with each successive hatch. Of the last two hatched, May 20 and June 4, the pullets are not developed at this writing, (March), though all the others are fully grown, and the first two hatches have been laying since November.

I do not intend this season to bring off any hatches later than May 1st, and hope thereby to have a better brooding experience this season. One fact I am convinced of, and that is that a hatch that runs over a day will be hard to raise even under the most favorable conditions. Another fact is that as the season advances, the rate of mortality will relatively increase in spite of all. I know some *claim* to raise chicks at all seasons of the year, possibly they do raise *some*, but as a money success, I doubt if it can be done.

In concluding will say that I shall not put over fifty chicks into my brooders while they are of the present size. The loss of No. 5 cannot be attributed to overcrowding, as it was divided, and still they died; this may have entered into, somewhat, that of No. 3.

Oregon City, Ore. E. H. COWING.

BLACK LANGSHANS.

I have 10 fine cockerels, 50 fine pullets, 25 good yearling hens.

These are good birds, not culls. Prices reasonable. Eggs for hatching, $3 per 15; $5 per 30.

J. S. REMINGTON, Box 136, Greenville, R. I.

CUT PRICES ON INCUBATORS

AUTOMATION REGULATION VENTILATION MOISTURE
GUARANTEED FOR 2 YEARS
THE MONEY MAKER FOR POULTRY-MEN
SEND FOR No. 1 CATALOG
50 EGG SIZE $4.49
100 EGG SIZE $7.99
200 EGG SIZE $11.49
WHY PAY MORE?
ESTD 1893 INVINCIBLE HATCHER CO. SPRINGFIELD ONT.

BUFF WYANDOTTES EXCLUSIVELY.

At Boston, 1902, 1st pen, fifth cockerel, sixth pullet and cock; 600 head to select from. Let us fit you out with a good trio or pen. Circular free.
Eggs, $3 per 15; $5 per 30.

RUFUS Y. COOLIDGE & SON,
Box 286, Hudson, Mass.

STEEL ROOFING
FREIGHT CHARGES PAID BY US

Strictly new, perfect, Semi-Hardened Steel Sheets, 2 feet wide, 6 feet long. The best Roofing, Siding or Ceiling you can use. No experience necessary to lay it. An ordinary hammer or hatchet the only tools you need. We furnish nails free and paint roofing two sides. Comes either flat, corrugated or "V" crimped. Delivered free of all charges to all points in the U. S., east of the Mississippi River and North of the Ohio River

AT $2.25 PER SQUARE

Prices to other points on application. A square means 100 square feet. Write for free Catalogue No. 390

CHICAGO HOUSE WRECKING CO., W. 35th and Iron Sts., Chicago

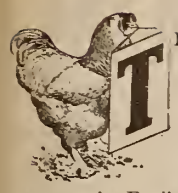
EGGS FOR HATCHING

BROWN LEGHORNS,
STANDLEY'S STRAINS,
WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Two of the greatest laying strains in the world, sold and recognized as such everywhere—17 years experience in breeding. Customers order repeatedly. Send for circular—free. Price $2 per sitting.

INDIAN HILL POULTRY YARDS,
I. W. Standley, 30 Sherbrooke Place, Lynn, Mass

Points on Pheasants.



THE ENGLISH Ring Neck and Monoglian pheasants are fast becoming popular in the east. As the density of population crowds out the game birds, we find that we have to resort to the English methods of game preserves and parks. Poultry is all right, but the poultryman who does not keep at least one pen of these beautiful vari-colored English or Mongolian pheasants is 'way behind the times. The true lover of poultry can't get along without these gorgeous symbols of nature's splendid coloring.

The coops or pens, wired on the sides and top, are about fifteen by five feet for a cock and four hens. Pheasants require little space, and do not eat much. Give plenty of green food, and for grain a little wheat, rye, oats, or barley scattered in the litter except in very cold weather, when corn is good. Never feed corn in the breeding season, as it makes internal fat. Only feed what the pheasants will pick up right off; it is their nature to be plump and in good condition, and they are never troubled by disease.

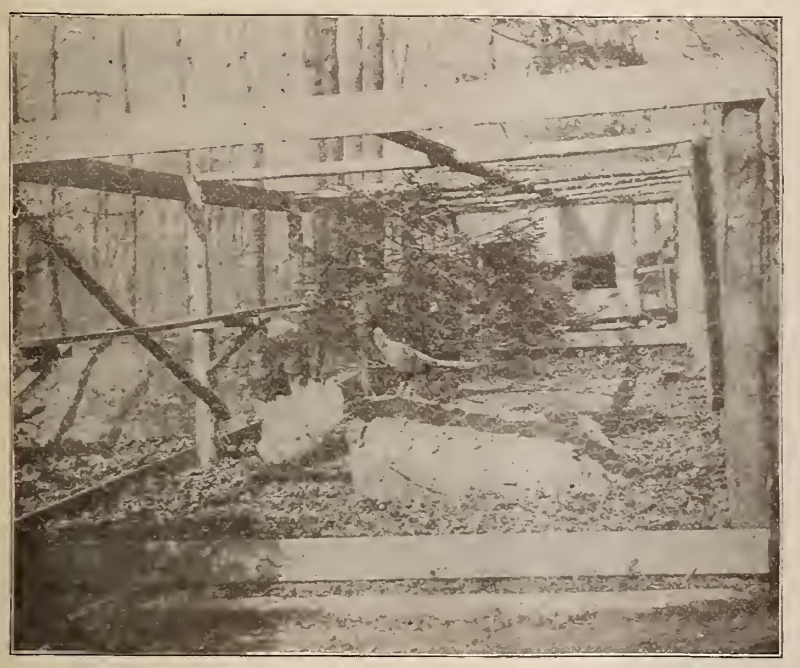
They lay from twenty-five to eighty eggs each season, according to the variety. Don't allow the pheasant hen to sit, for if you break her up, she will keep right on laying. They begin to lay in April or May.

The chicks are easy to raise. Place eighteen eggs under a common hen, and at the end of twenty-six days you will probably have eighteen little pheasants, for pheasants' eggs run very fertile. Chopped hard boiled eggs are good for the first day or two. Then boiled rice and a couple of maggots each, chopped lettuce and onions, and if you have plenty of milk curds go first rate. In fact, just about the same feed and care as you would give to fancy poultry, and the little chicks will thrive.

The old birds require very little care, and will get along without any shelter through the winter months. Often you see them sporting on the snow, their brilliant plumage making a dazzling contrast when the thermometer registers below zero.

In Oregon these birds have become so plenty that there were over 20,000 sold in the markets last year. There the beautiful Golden pheasant has been successfully introduced, and is now rapidly spreading into California. There is one sure thing, pheasants are profitable, as there is a demand much exceeding the supply for both stock and eggs.

E. F. CONNESS.



VIEW OF ONE OF THE PHEASANT RUNS OF MISS E. F. CONNESS, Mattapan, Mass.
A few choice White Wyandottes are temporarily sharing the run with the pheasants.

My Experience Raising Chickens in 1902.

MY FIRST hatch of chickens in 1902 were taken from the incubator Feb. 12th, one hundred and two of them, and placed in a Prairie State outdoor brooder standing in a vacant room in the house, opening out of a room heated by a coal stove. The temperature of the brooder was nearly 90, and soon became quite 90; if it became higher than that the chicks showed by their uneasiness that they were too warm. The door of the brooder was kept shut the first day, and they had nothing to eat but the clean sand with which the bottom of the brooder was covered, and fine crushed oyster shells obtained by sifting out the larger pieces in a colander. Just at night a few oat flakes were scattered before them, and a few of them were picked up by the chicks.

I was very careful to keep the temperature in the brooder steady for the first two or three days, as at this time temperature is much more important than food. The second day the door was opened and they were encouraged to come out of the brooder by scattering food on the floor. Occasionally one would have to be placed inside the brooder when it got chilly or sleepy, but they soon learned to take care of themselves, and scampered out and in the brooder many times a day. Several thick newspapers were spread on the floor and covered an inch or two thick with chaff, etc., from the bottom of the haymow, and they took great pleasure in scratching in this. An inclosure was made for them about three feet square so they could not stray far away from the brooder.

Pure water with the chill taken off, fine oyster shells and fine bits of charcoal were kept before them all the time. For the first five or six days their feed consisted of the oat flakes fed dry, and wheat bread crumbs either dry or slightly moistened with sweet milk. Then I began gradually to feed a cake made of one part wheat bran, one part middlings, and one part corn meal, with a little bone flour, meat meal and salt, and soda added and wet with milk and baked. They soon learned to like this so well that they preferred it to anything else, but previous experience had taught me that three times a day was often enough to feed this, as it was such a hearty food that if it was made the principal part of their diet their bodies would grow too fast for their legs, and then leg weakness would result, their quarters being small and exercise limited.

So I began early to teach them to eat the hard grains, wheat, cracked corn, and hulled oats. Of the latter they are very fond, and I consider them one of the best grains for little chicks, and fed them liberally. I gave first in the morning a feed of hard grain, two hours later a feed of the cake, then another of grain, and so through the day, giving whole grain last at night. These grains were scattered in the chaff to keep them busy scratching; a little millet seed was also scattered occasionally. I thought they needed some dampness for their feet, so a shallow box of earth was given them to scratch in which was kept moist; the litter was also sprinkled occasionally. They must also have green food, and something had to be substituted for grass, so a cabbage was sliced into fine bits, and the way they chased each other around for those bits was amusing. Sometimes this feed was varied by raw potatoes. At first I sliced them into little bits, but as soon as they learned to like the taste I pared small ones and put them in whole, and they would pick at them until they were all gone. I calculated the work of getting the food was perhaps of as much benefit as the food itself; occasionally a feed of boiled potatoes was given.

So they scratched and ate and grew till they were nearly three weeks old; soon another hatch would be due from the incubator, and must have the brooder occupied by these chicks. So they were removed to a similar brooder out doors in a shed open to the south. Here they had more room to run about, and more sunshine. The part of the shed in front of the brooder received sun nearly all day; I preferred to have the brooder set where the sun's rays did not strike it, as it was easier to keep it at a uniform temperature. Before removing the chicks out to the brooder in the shed I had gradually reduced the temperature of the brooder in the house until it was at 70 (though under the hover it was much warmer). I had also accustomed the chicks to outdoor air by keeping a window near them raised when the weather would permit; the temperature of the brooder in the shed I tried to keep as near 70 as possible. There were some cold nights when the ground would be frozen, but the chicks did not seem to mind it. They would eat and scratch for a while and then hustle back into the brooder to get warm for a few minutes, and then out to scratch again.

After being shut in the shed for about two weeks they were given the freedom of the yard connected with it. With nearly 100 chicks in the brooder (only a few had died) but very little blaze was needed on the lamp

REGRETS ARE VAIN,
Better Be Sure Than Sorry,

"Pshaw!! these eggs both rattle. I wish I'd bought 'em of DUSTON."

Take Pattern By Others Who Have Succeeded.

Are a few bits for you to think of when ordering WHITE WYANDOTTES. One of the most prominent breeders in the country refused $50 apiece for two pullets hatched from eggs I sold him. My matings certainly never were better. Eggs, 1 sitting $5; 2 sittings $8; 3 sittings $10; 5 sittings $15; in lots of 100, $20. A large number of choice breeding cocks, cockerels, hens and pullets; singly, or will mate. 2c. stamp for Cat. Write to

ARTHUR G. DUSTON. 223 East Main St., **Marlboro, Mass.**

PER EGG CAPACITY

The Sure Hatch Incubator is a high grade machine throughout, (over 30,000 in use) anyone can operate them, and when it is considered that we pay the freight and that the machines are all larger than rated capacity and are sent on 30 days trial, the egg capacity is the cheapest of any good incubator on the market.
Our Free 1903 Catalogue was made to order for the poultry raisers—poultry and egg record tables, etc. A big book full of good things. Address nearest office.
SURE HATCH INCUBATOR COMPANY.
Columbus, Ohio. Clay Center, Nebr. Eugene, Ore.

DO YOU WANT LAYERS?
MY THOROUGHBRED
BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS
Are as good as the best — strong, healthy, vigorous, nicely barred, farm raised birds, selected year by year for eggs for ten years. 135 hens averaged 198 eggs each in one year. Egg orders booked now, and fertility guaranteed. Eggs $2 per 15; $5 per 39; $10 per 100; incubator eggs $6 per 100; $10, 200. Agent for Cyphers Incubators, Brooders, and Poultry Supplies. Circular and price list free.
J. W. PARKS, Box F, Altoona, Pa.
Successor to H. F. COX, Sabbath Rest, Pa.

Good Bargains
For a short time in fine stock of the following strains: White Wyandottes, Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Mammoth Bronze Turkeys and Mammoth Pekin Ducks. No better stock anywhere. In the recent show at Newark, N. J., we secured four prizes out of five entries, on stock bred and exhibited by us.
MONRO BROS., Cranbury, N. J.

de Wolf Farm,
PAPPOOSESQUAW,
BRISTOL, - R. I.
Formerly Samuel Cusbman & Co.
RHODE ISLAND REDS, standard bred Single, Rose and Pea Comb. A limited number of sittings from two small pens headed by Madison Square winners. Embden, Toulouse and White China geese and eggs. Write for prices.
See Back Cover. **M. deW. MUDGE.**

Harvey's Poultry Supplies.
The line includes **Bone Cutters, Clover Cutters, Incubators, Crushed Oyster Shells, Ground Meat Meal, Beef Scraps, Drinking Fountains, Feeding Pans, Poultry Netting, Condition Powders,** and many other useful things. We make a specialty of high class goods at low prices. Our
CUT CLOVER HAY
made from air dried, second growth clover, and prepared by our own special process is a great egg producer. Write and let us quote you on some of the special good things. The book you know is free. Write for it.
HARVEY SEED CO., 19 Ellicott St., Buffalo, N. Y.

at night, but often more heat was needed in the daytime, as I wanted it warm enough so the chicks could get warm quickly. A chick will stand pretty cold weather if it has a place where it can get warm quickly. I think it better to run a little heat in the brooder even after the weather seems too warm to need it, as it keeps it dried out. Otherwise the dampness condensed from the breath of the chickens renders it unhealthy.

The first chicks were ready for the broiler market April 23, and brought a good price. The second and third hatches, out March 7 and March 28, were handled in much the same way except that they did not have to be kept in the house or shed as long, the weather being warm, and there was plenty of lawn clippings to supply them with green food. I had no trouble from leg weakness in the first two flocks, but in the third flock there were three or four cases when about six weeks old; when three or four weeks old is usually the critical time. As soon as I saw any symptoms of the trouble I added to the drinking water citrate of iron and ammonia (crystals), a teaspoonful to a quart for the flock, and there were no more cases, and after a few days the invalids all got entirely well. In the fourth flock there were a few cases, but with the same treatment all recovered. In the fifth batch, which was out about May 12th, there was a greater loss (about 25 per cent) than in any of the previous ones. As that batch was 117, I thought the crowded condition of the brooder might have something to do with it. They were thrifty and grew well till about a month old; then they began to droop. At first I noticed one or two would not eat, and preferred to remain in the brooder most of the time, and after about three or four days would die. Every day or two there would be one or two new cases nearly all of which

VIEW AT FARM OF HENRY D. SMITH, NORWELL, MASS.

proved fatal. After they were six weeks old the critical period seemed to be ended, and no more died. One remarkable thing about it was that it was not the weaker or smaller ones which were attacked, but the larger, stronger ones.

I never decided in my own mind what caused the trouble; but I thought it might be that as it was later in the season and the hens had been laying steadily for a long time, there might have been a lack of vitality in the eggs. I fed some condition powder in the mash after the trouble began; think that may have helped them some, but probably should have been fed earlier. With the same treatment under which the previous ones thrived, these did not thrive equally well. But when the season was ended I counted up my pullets and cockerels, and the record of sales in my account book, and the sum total showed me over 400 chicks incubator hatched and raised in brooders in the season of 1902.

Durham, Conn. Mrs. C. C. ATWELL.

ROUND ABOUT.

Two Days on the South Shore—The Soft Roaster Business This Year Better Than Was Anticipated —The Jordan Farm—Poultry and Pheasants.

WHEN anthracite was very high in price, and sometimes not obtainable at any price, the outlook for the growers of soft roasters in the south shore section was anything but bright, and there was some talk of plants either not starting up or greatly curtailing their output. But most of the men engaged in this business are men who have worked their way against obstacles quite as formidable as that presented by the fuel situation at the beginning of the winter, so it was only the expected that happened when they generally began to make preparations to hatch and grow chicks to the capacity of their plants as usual.

As things turned out, the fuel problem, though embarrassing and adding somewhat to the cost of chicks above what it would have been with anthracite in the usual supply at usual prices, was an easier proposition than some that are likely to come up at any time, and with the quantity of the season's product now known, and the crop practically "safe," it appears that for most of the growers the season has been an unusually good one.

Farrer Bros., at West Norwell, Mass., whose plant and methods have several times been discussed in these papers, have this year 4,500 Light Brahmas on hand. These range in size from new hatched chicks to full grown birds ready for market. A few birds had already been marketed, for the early spring has brought the pullets to laying earlier, and as soon as they begin to lay they have to be disposed of. The growers would rather not have them lay, for as long as they do not lay they keep on making weight, and the best prices are not obtained until June and July.

On this farm hatches were unusually good during the winter, and chicks lived and grew well. I asked Mr. Fred Farrer if he could account for the difference in fertility between this year and last, when they had a hard time to get fertile eggs. He replied that as far as they could see, the most of the difference was due to their having gone to other places this year for eggs. They keep about a hundred breeding hens of their own, and easily account for better results from the home flock as due to greater experience in handling fowls. Those readers who read the accounts of earlier visits to this farm may remember that though

A 6x8 HOUSE AT FARRER BROS., W NORWELL, MASS.
Showing how house is ventilated by door and window.

Farrer Bros. have been growing chickens for some thirteen or fourteen years, it was not until about three years ago that they began to give attention to producing the eggs to use for hatching.

Previous to that time they and nearly all others engaged in growing roasting chickens in this section depended entirely upon the farmers for their eggs for hatching. At the time mentioned other growers were also beginning to interest themselves in the matter of producing eggs, and a number of them now keep a good many breeding fowls. None, however, keep enough to supply them with eggs. It would take a pretty big stock of breeders to do that, for they must have eggs at a season when production is rarely good.

Fifty cents per dozen is the established price for eggs for hatching here. The eggs come mostly from farm flocks of Light Brahmas, though some egg farmers also cater to this demand. The Light Brahma appears to have a cinch on this branch of the industry, it being the fowl that on the whole best suits the peculiar requirements of this trade. Several years ago in writing of a visit to this locality I told how the growers would like to get smaller chickens that would still remain soft meated long enough to be marketed to best advantage, and suggested the possibility of developing strains of the American varieties which would have in more marked degree than the average fowls of their kind the characteristics required in fowls for their trade.

On this last visit Mr. J. H. Curtiss told me of a poultryman in Hingham who had some Barred Plymouth Rock capons that were as fine as any he had seen this season. But he further stated, they were also as large as the Light Brahmas, and that, taken into consideration with some other things leads me to think it may be necessary to qualify what I said about adapting the other breeds to the requirements of this trade, and to ask:—Is it possible to get soft meat and slow maturity except in a large fowl? Will not the slow maturing stock in a few seasons, if not immediately, make large size? Then, too, comes up the question about stocks of pullets that do not lay for months after attaining full size and weight, these being found sometimes in all breeds. Such pullets probably continue soft meated until they reach laying maturity. Do the cockerels of the same stock also continue so? If they do there would seem to be a useful place for a class of fowls which heretofore has been only an expense to those who happened to have them. There is an opportunity for poultrymen of inquiring minds to make

SHOEMAKER'S BOOK ON POULTRY

AND ALMANAC FOR 1903.
There is nothing in the world like it. It contains the following: 200 large pages, handsomely illustrated. A number of most beautiful Colored Plates, true to life. It tells all about all kinds of Thoroughbred Fowls, with life-like illustrations, and prices of same. It tells how to raise poultry successfully and how to treat all diseases common among them. It gives working plans and illustrations of convenient Poultry Houses. It tells all about INCUBATORS AND BROODERS. It gives full instructions for operating all kinds of Incubators. This chapter is marvelously complete and is worth dollars to anyone using an incubator. It gives descriptions and prices of Incubators, Brooders and all kinds of Poultry Supplies. In fact, it is an encyclopedia of chickendom and will be mailed to anyone on receipt of only 15 cents. Your money returned if not pleased.
C. C. SHOEMAKER, Box 517, Freeport, Ill.

ORR'S WYANDOTTES,
Silver, White, Partridge and Buff.
Also Orr's Buff Orpingtons.
Have been leading winners at leading shows, and are mated to produce that kind for next year. Eggs for hatching, $3 and $5 per sitting. Circular of matings free.
T. E. ORR, Box 518, Beaver, Pa.

THE MERIT of YEARS

attaches to this roofing. It is known and used in every section of the whole country.
FIRE, WIND and WATER PROOF, durable and low in price. Being soft and pliable, it is easy to fit and lay. Exposure makes it as hard as slate. Send for Sample and Circular.
THE A. F. SWAN CO., 116 Nassau St., NEW YORK.

BUFFINTON
Has been in the poultry business nearly forty years, has bred every variety, and found none better than Buff Plymouth Rocks and Buff Wyandottes. Will sell eggs from first class stock of these varieties $1.25 for 13; $3 for 40; $6 for 100. Also from the two most popular new varieties, Partridge Plymouth Rocks and Columbian Wyandottes. $2 for 13; $5 for 40. Also have for sale, Buff, Black and White Cochin Bantams. Send for circular.
ROWLAND G. BUFFINTON,
Box 677, Fall River, Mass.

WRIGHT'S WHITE WYANDOTTES
Are the STAY WHITE kind and have the YELLOW LEGS.
EGGS from the best matings I ever owned $3 per 15; two sittings for $5; $15 per 100; incubator eggs from a fine laying strain of large brown eggs, $6 per 100. Send for circular giving list of winnings.
A. E. WRIGHT, Saxonville, Mass.
Formerly of South Sudbury.

Millville Eggs
Will hatch winning Barred and Buff P. Rocks, Buff and White Wyandottes, and Pekin Ducks. 1903 mating list will be mailed free, giving prices of eggs, list of winnings, etc. We guarantee 75 per cent fertile from prize, or broiler matings. Our record is unsurpassed at leading shows. Catalogue sent for postal mailed to
MILLVILLE POULTRY FARM CO.,
M. F. Delano, Prest. Box P, Millville, N. J.

CHICK MANNA

Where's that Chick Manna? QUICK.

MAKES A CERTAINTY OF RAISING CHICKS AFTER HATCHING THEM.
Try a Little and We'll Sell You More.
1 lb. by mail.....25 cents.
5 lbs. by express.....40 cents.
60 lb. case by freight.....$4.20
Poultry Supplies
OF EVERY KIND
described in our Illustrated Catalogue which we send FREE upon request.
CYPHERS INCUBATORS are without a peer. Write us for prices.
JOHNSON & STOKES,
217-219 Market St., Philadelphia.

White Plymouth Rocks.
EGGS from our 1903 WINNERS at BOSTON and LEWISTON, $2 a sitting. 90 per cent guaranteed fertile. Incubator Eggs $6 per 100.
A few pure white cockerels left, $3 to $10 each.
E. F. CONNESS, Mattapan, Mass.

some observations and experiments in the matters just referred to.

When we went to school and studied physics we learned that "action and reaction are equal" and "opposite in direction." The law seems to hold good in many other matters. It seemed to me to apply interestingly to the question of size of fowls demanded in the markets. While the growers of soft roasters have been looking for smaller fowls that would fill their bill, the public, unable to get any but good sized fowls of this grade, has been using them, and because of this the demand for large fowls of all grades is said to have increased noticeably within a few years. It is a fact which poultry fanciers do not always keep in mind that what the marketman generally calls a large fowl, the fancier who breeds to approximately standard weights for the breeds in the American class would call a small fowl.

Similarly with the Light Brahmas grown in this section. Only a small proportion of the chickens make standard weights for Light Brahmas. As a matter of fact, there is probably only a small proportion of the stock that has not other blood in it, and it would not be at all difficult to find flocks of any of the American breeds that at maturity average as large as these roasting chickens do when marketed. At the same time it should be said that there is probably not much of the stock used here that if its ancestral lines were followed back would not be found to have some not very remote ancestors in common with some of the noted winners at Boston and New York shows, for many a brother of a prize bird having some little out that debarred him from the show or breeding pen finds his way to the farms of this section to fertilize eggs for the soft roaster growers. A good many females of royal lineage, too, find their way down here, and it is these introductions of blood of fowls fully up to standard weights that keeps the stocks from becoming quite unlike the fanciers' birds in size and appearance.

It strikes me as possible, too, that it is the blood from stocks of fanciers who care little or nothing for egg production that helps to maintain a slow progress to maturity in the stock as a whole. But we are getting too far away from the main question.

Messrs. Farrer Bros. have had very gratifying results in hatching this season. Paying at the rate of four and one-sixth cents per egg, they have had whole hatches of chicks that when hatched cost them but seven cents per chick, and they thought the average cost per new hatched chick for the season would not go over ten or twelve cents. There have been times when the cost ran up to eighteen and twenty cents.

Because of the uncertainty about coal they carried the first chicks hatched in the old Rankin brooders heated with oil, with which they began years ago, then when coal was obtainable they filled up their brooder houses. When I saw the place (March 25), every house on the place was full. I secured good pictures of several features of the plant, and also a picture reproduced in this paper of an old acquaintance of all our old readers, Mr. A. F. Hunter, the former editor of this paper, who, with Mr. Jesse Rutter, of Methuen, Mass., as photographer, was visiting the plant in the interests of the Cyphers Incubator Co.

SEVEN HUNDRED HALF GROWN ROASTERS,
At Farrer Bros., W. Norwell, Mass.

In the afternoon I was driven to the farm of Mr. Henry D. Smith, of Norwell, some four or five miles distant. Here there is almost as large a stock of chickens as at Farrer Bros., and here too they are nearly all Light Brahmas. Mr. Smith's plant is in some respects the most interesting one I have seen. He is a man of inventive mind and considerable skill, able to do a good piece of work, it is said, in a number of different mechanical branches. The incubators he uses, except one or two machines of a popular make, were designed and made by himself, and work so well that though he put in the other machines with the idea of replacing all his own machines with machines of this type if it proved the better hatcher, the home made machines seem destined to stay as long as they last. In a number of tests of the two kinds of machines, Mr. Smith running his own and an employee who is expert in the management of the other machines running them, the home made machines have come out a little ahead in every case.

The feature, however, for which Mr. Smith's plant is most noted throughout this section is the electric regulator for the brooder house. This is a thermostat with electrical connections, which is put right under the pipes and is protected from the chickens by a wire screen cover. One arm is connected with the heater, and its movements establish or break connections which open or close dampers as required. This is very sensitive, regulating to within a degree or two. Another arm adjusted for wider variations rings an electric bell at the house when the temperature varies beyond what can be automatically controlled.

The device works well, and Mr. Smith has put in a number of them on other farms in this section. The cost is considerable, but for those handling quantities of winter chickens, the regulator soon pays for itself.

Returning to West Norwell I passed the night at the Curtiss Farm, going after supper to see the Messrs. Curtiss hang up to dry the poultry dressed that day which had been cooling in tanks of ice water. At this season the poultry can be hung up over night, and thus dried for shipment. Later it has to be kept in ice water over night. Early next morning I was up to see the poultry sorted and packed for the express which came at 7 A. M. The day's "kill" of chickens, by three pickers was two hundred and thirty fowls. These weighed about 1,600 pounds, and made eight heavy boxes of poultry which went to seven different marketmen in Boston. As Mr. G. W. Curtiss remarked, there were "a lot of good dinners there."

There were indeed only about a dozen chickens that because of poor condition, torn skin or other blemish, would not go as first class stock. These were held over to be shipped with the "seconds" sorted out of the next day's lot.

As stated earlier in this article, the season is so forward that a larger proportion than usual of this class of poultry is now being marketed. The shipments by this firm alone the week preceding my visit were 6,900 pounds, almost three and a half tons.

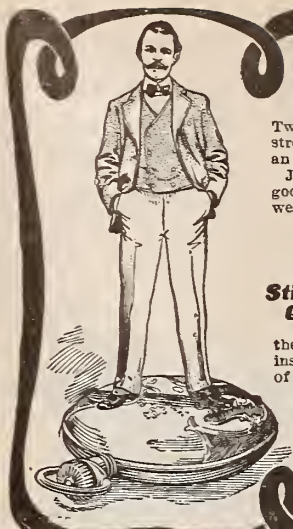
I think the pickers of fowls would appreciate it if some one with an investigative turn of mind would make a study of the matter, find out the reason or reasons why fowls sometimes pick hard, and show people how to grow fowls that will all pick easily. The pickers I watched at work here on the morning of March 26th had a tough lot of fowls to work on. Replying to questions, the head picker told me that it often happened that two lots of fowls from the same farm but from different flocks picked altogether differently, one lot being hard to pick, another easy.

Later on this morning I visited the now famous Jordan Farm, at Hingham, Mass. The poultry department on this farm was started a little over a year ago, and leaving entirely out of consideration questions of profit, the success attained has been phenomenal. The poultry department is superintended and practically managed by Mr. L. S. Young, the manager of the farm. Mr. Young was strictly a novice in poultry keeping when he took hold of this work, though expert in farming and other lines of stock breeding and feeding. This experience and the disposition to profit by the advice and experiences of others, I think must be credited for his exceptional success. Mr. Young himself gives no small part of the credit for the present very satisfactory condition of his poultry department to the readiness of the proprietor of the farm, Mr. H. G. Jordan, to provide what is needed just as it is needed.

The brooder houses here combine after the best features of those that have been in use in this section for years, and a little better built and finished than any of them. For the weaned chicks the same system of colonizing in small houses is used, but the houses are better built, are painted, and the arrangement is more orderly — though they are not so picturesque as the rougher houses placed with little attention to plan and line.

Mr. Young had hatched up to the time I called there 7,200 (in round numbers) chickens, and still had on the place over 6,000. Of those gone, 850 had just been sold for broilers. The losses aggregated less than 300, which is very light loss for the numbers handled. The chicks on the place were White Wyandottes and Light Brahmas, and in age and size they varied from the new hatched chick to the ten pound capon.

Leaving this farm I took the electrics for the Hingham station, and just missing the train there and the electric car for Braintree as well, set out to get a lunch and kill time until the next train. Hardly had I reached the end of the platform, when I was accosted by a gentleman who introduced himself as A. L. Whiton a reader of F.-P., and breeder of Silver Wyandottes, and finding that I had a little time on my hands invited me to take lunch with him and look at his stock and premises. This invitation of course I was only too glad to accept, for talking with poultrymen I generally enjoy, while I have never yet been able



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A RECORD - - -
Not a Prospectus

During the past four years exhibiting at New York and Boston, we have won more first prizes than all competitors combined, nearly three times as many first prizes as any one competitor.
NEW YORK, N. Y., 1899.
1 Cock; 1st Hen; 1, 4 Cockerels; 1 Pullet; 1 Pen.
BOSTON, MASS., 1900.
1 Cock; 1, 4 Hens; 2 Cockerel; 3, 4 Pullets; 1 Pen.
BOSTON, MASS., 1901.
1, 2, 3 Cocks; 1, 2, 3 Hens; 1, 4, 6 Cockerels; 1, 2, 3, 4 Pullets; 3 Pen.
PAN AMERICAN EXPOSITION, 1901.
1, 2 Cocks; 1, 2 Hens; 3, 4 Cockerels; 1, 5 Pullets; 3 Pen.
BOSTON, MASS., 1902.
1, 2 Cocks; 1, 4 Hens; 1 Cockerel; 3, 4 Pullets; 2 Pen.
Profusely illustrated catalogue upon application.
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WILSON'S
New Green Bone, Shell and Vegetable Cutter for the Poultryman.
Also Bone Mills for making phosphate and fertilizer at small cost for the farmer, from 1 to 40 horse-power. Farm Feed Mills grind fine, fast and easy. Send for circulars.
WILSON BROS., Sole Mfgrs., Easton, Pa.

to extract any measurable amount of pleasure from waiting for trains.

Mr. Whitou has a cosy little city lot plant for three pens of Silver Wyandottes and a good outlet for his young stock. He took up poultry keeping some years ago when in poor health, and became too much interested to drop it, even had not his present occupation left him ample time during a long period each year to gratify his poultry interests.

Another poultry yard visited about a week previous to those mentioned above was that of Miss E. F. Conness at Mattapan, Mass., who contributes a brief but valuable article on the care of pheasants to this issue. Miss Conness has been exceptionally successful with Ring Neck pheasants, and has recently added to her stock some fine Golden pheasants.

In some ways, too, she has been very successful with poultry. Through several seasons now when general fertility of eggs has been poor, eggs from her flock have been remarkably good. In speaking to me of this matter before I visited the farm she attributed it to running two male birds with each pen of hens. That may be in part the reason, but I think that the fine large yards or practically unlimited ranges which her fowls have are to be credited with most of the extra fertility.

An Instructive Brooder Experience in 1902.

UNTIL we bought a two hundred-egg incubator and two brooders, late in the winter of 1901—'02, I had never seen either, and had no particular liking for fowls of any kind, but knowing that I would have to be a mother to the (prospective) orphan chicks, I diligently perused every article on artificial brooding that came my way, and on March 31st, thirty-six hours after the first hatch was completed, I transferred the eighty-seven lively White Leghorn puff balls to the brooders, with a weighty sense of responsibility.

As the weather was cold, and I had no better place, I kept the brooders in a 14 x 16 unused room upstairs, with plenty of light and ventilation, but no fire. I fed the chicks every two hours from 6 A. M. until 6 P. M., first with light fine dry bread crumbs; after a few days, alternated with johnnycake made from sifted meal, two parts; white flour, one part; mixed with skimmed milk, sweet or sour, and a little baking powder or saleratus. Added gradually to the bill of fare broken rice, mashed potato, rolled oats, very coarse dry corn meal, millet, and pigeon grass seed, and finely chopped cabbage. They had fine grit in a little box, water in one fountain, milk in another, constantly from the first, and the amount they ate and drank was surprising to me, but they grew and throve accordingly.

No thermometers came with the brooders, and the book said "the chickens themselves were the best thermometers, but we reasoned that it would be better to keep them comfortable, if possible, than to compel them to be thermometers by showing that they were uncomfortable, and accordingly fastened a cheap dairy thermometer near the center of each hover, so that the bulb was one and one-half inches from the floor, and guided partly by the chicks, partly by the book, kept the hovers at about ninety-five degrees the first week, eighty-five to ninety the second week, and eighty to eighty-five the third week.

They could at all times run outside the hover, where it was cooler, and after the first week, I placed the brooders facing each other, and constructed a temporary yard between, where I fed, watered, and let them run at will during the day. They would mix up at nightfall, but it was little trouble to transfer from one brooder to the other, so that each should have about half the chicks, before shutting them in for the night. The floors of the brooders and yard were kept littered with chaff or sand renewed every other day. The lamps were filled and trimmed twice daily. At the end of three weeks I had lost but three chicks—two were trampled on, and the other choked to death on a long raveling from the cloth of the hover.

Another hatch being now ready to come off, these chicks were transferred to a "Whitney" outdoor brooder, two of which had been purchased. These brooders are rated to hold seventy-five chicks, but as the weather was still cold, windy, and damp, I put all the eighty four in one brooder, and they seemed to have plenty of room. The brooder was in an angle of the house, where it was somewhat sheltered, and a further windbreak made with boards forming two sides of a yard, the house the other two. I could watch it from a kitchen window, which saved some steps. Unless it was stormy, the chicks were fed outside, and run out and in as they pleased. The brooders were kept near eighty degrees, with plenty of ventilation, the temperature gradually lowered as the chicks grew larger.

On cold windy nights it would take the full capacity of the lamp to keep up the heat, then when the sun came out bright, the lamp might be extinguished, and the cover raised. The directions say, "keep water on the bowl of the lamp." Once I neglected to replenish it soon enough, and happening to look out the window saw smoke issuing from the brooder, rushed out to find the water evaporated, the lamp howl hot, and the pine wood of the lamp chamber smoking and blackened.

The bread and johnnycake were now omitted, and a rather dry mash of coarse meal and fine bran, with a little red dog flour substituted two or three times a day, all feedings three hours apart, with heads of cabbage cut open, and fresh sods to pick at. They seemed to prefer the millet seed to anything else except bread.

Meanwhile the second hatch of one hundred and four were in the up stairs brooders, fed and tended like the first for two weeks, with a loss of five, when they were put in the outdoor brooder No. 2 in the same place, No. 1 having been moved under an apple tree farther away. When the third hatch of one hundred and eighteen chicks was completed, those in No. 1, now needing no artificial heat, were induced to go into a large dry goods box put in place of the brooder, and the brooder moved to a fresh grass plot for the new comers.

Here I made my first serious mistake, in crowding so many together. After a week or so they did not thrive; some drooped their wings, and were weak; a few were trampled to death, and we lost more from that lot than from both the others. Then company, one cool rainy day, caused me to neglect them; they got wet and chilled; the lamp went out, and when I finally went to attend them they were a sorry sight. I gathered up the weakest, about thirty, and put them in brooder No. 1 (those chicks having also been transferred to a large box), but although they received extra care and feed, and had a nice place far from the rest, a number died and the rest have always been culls.

All the chicks had free range as soon as old enough, and the hawks got about a dozen. The first pullet egg was laid Aug. 18th. A pair was sent to the county fair, Aug. 23—4—5, and the pullet took first prize, the cockerel being a little off as to comb and wattles. One hundred and forty-seven cockerels were sold for broilers at about ten weeks old, leaving about one hundred and forty pullets on hand Sept. 1st.

And now we made, or rather continued the mistake. A temporary roosting house 4x12 had been built, but with the boxes also, it proved too small and too warm, a fact which we were slow to realize. Then, for a number of weeks I had fed exclusively on cracked corn, with all the milk they would drink, and all the apples they wanted at their pleasure. For a time they thrived amazingly, were handsome and healthy, but appetite began to fail, and finally they would not come when called. Symptoms of bowel trouble and leg weakness appeared; those that had been laying stopped entirely, and looked dejected; combs lost color, and we were unable to find a cause for it all.

Finally, aided by some suggestions from FARM-POULTRY, and helped also by circumstances, I changed the feed, moved the flock into a new poultry house across the road, divided them into four pens, each 10x16 feet, where they nearly all in time recovered, and are now healthy and happy. I think I've learned a few lessons from this experience—first, and most important is, that the chicks should have plenty of room from start to finish; seventy-five are enough for any brooder: second, that all weaklings would better be killed at once, thus saving time and feed; third, that a steady diet of any one thing is to be avoided; fourth, that it pays to "take pains" with the chicks and brooders, giving both the best possible care, and visiting the brooders at least once, as I did, during the

"CHICKEN LIFE INSURANCE."

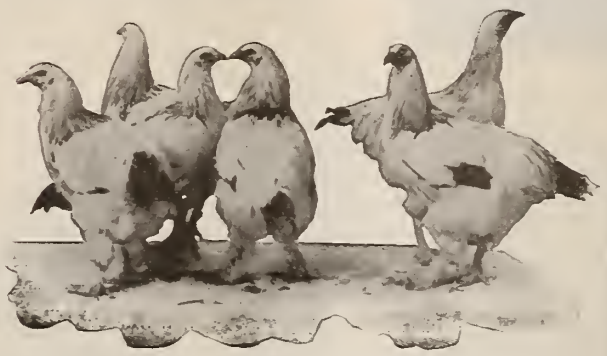
CYPHERS CHICK FOOD.

1 CHICK—8 WEEKS—5 CENTS.

CYPHERS CHICK FOOD is a mixture of eleven different grains and seeds, proportioned so as to meet all the needs of growing chicks and to fully nourish them. By the term "fully nourish," we mean a great deal. Chick foods, as a rule, contain too much fat forming and not enough bone forming elements, and in consequence the chicks develop indigestion and diarrhœa, which ultimately means no digestion at all, and the birds soon starve to death; or, if partially nourished, leg weakness develops, and they drag out a miserable existence for a few days or weeks, and then die.

IF YOU FEED CYPHERS CHICK FOOD YOU ARE RELIEVED OF ALL CONCERN, AS THIS FOOD IS A COMPLETE AND PROPERLY BALANCED FOOD, MACHINERY MIXED AND READY FOR USE.

IN COMPOUNDING CYPHERS CHICK FOOD, the protein, or flesh and muscle forming element is maintained high, the carbohydrate or fat forming element is reduced to its proper proportion, and the ash or mineral elements are in sufficient amount to supply the needs of the rapidly growing bird. If chicks are to be developed into breeders, no other food is required for the first eight weeks.



Group of quick-growth Capons grown at the Jordan Poultry Plant, Hingham, Mass. These birds were hatched October 3, 1902, and when this photo was taken, February 2, 1903, their average weight was about six pounds each. They were fed exclusively on Cyphers Chick Food and High Protien Beef Scraps.

Proof of the Pudding

On Cyphers Duck and Broiler Plant.

Wayland, N. Y., Jan. 26, 1903.

Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

I have tried nearly every kind of chick feed on the market, but have been able to raise far more chicks with the Cyphers Chick Food than with any other. Last summer we started a pen of 50 chicks, Leghorns and Wyandottes, feeding Cyphers Chick Food four weeks, two weeks Cyphers Forcing Food, and 40 out of the 50 chicks were fit to kill as squab broilers at six weeks, Leghorns going 12 to 14 ounces, Wyandottes 1 pound. We will finish a 100-pound bag of chick food tomorrow night on a pen of 50 chicks. Commenced feeding this pen Nov. 24th, and the 100 pounds will last until Jan. 28th. These chicks have never been out of a pen 5 X 12 feet, and from the lot shall kill 35 or 40 this week, weighing from 12 ounces to 1 pound each. Chicks grow faster and eat much more when they have a wide range. I think 50 chicks will consume 100 pounds in six weeks when not confined. Yours truly,

R. HERMAN.

"March 17th Had More Than 3900 Chickens."

Assiutppi, Mass., March 18, 1903.

Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

We have tried a good many chick feeds during the past fourteen years, but never found any in all that time that gave us so much satisfaction as the Cyphers Chick Food. Since adopting it we have no bowel trouble among our chicks. They start growing at once, and keep on growing, remaining strong and vigorous. At present we have more than 3900 chickens, and they are all being raised on Cyphers Chick Food. We heartily recommend it. Very truly yours,

FARRAR Bros.

"Feeding It To 4000 Little Chicks."

LAKEWOOD FARM COMPANY, (Incorporated).

Breeders of Pure-bred poultry for eggs, broilers and roasters.

Lakewood, N. J., March. 19, 1903.

Cyphers Incubator Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

It gives us pleasure to say that we have used Cyphers Chick Food during the past year with most gratifying results. At present we have upwards of 4000 chicks to which we are feeding it daily. They are a fine looking lot of youngsters, and are doing well. Yours truly,

LAKEWOOD FARM CO.

We Distribute Cyphers Chick Food in Car Lots to Our Three Branch Houses, and Quote the Following Prices:

50-pound bags.....$1.50 100-pound bags.....$2.50 500-pound lots.....$12.00

Special prices on car lots. Two [illegible] free [illegible] if you will mention this paper.

ORDER FROM NEAREST OFFICE, THUS SAVING TIME ON DELIVERY.

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BUFFALO, NEW YORK, Factory and Home Office.

BOSTON, MASS., 24 Merchants Row.

CHICAGO, ILL., 325 Dearborn Street.

NEW YORK, N. Y., 23 Barclay Street.

night, so long as the lamps are burning, or the weather unsettled; fifth, to keep water on the shut-up lamps. I believe neglecting this precaution is the cause of many fires.

While this experience was not a great success, neither was it an utter failure; and having brought a fair degree of profit and pleasure, for I soon became interested in the work and fond of the fowls. I shall this year endeavor to profit by my mistakes, buy more brooders, and try it again.

Plessis, N. Y. DELL S. PETRIE.

A Brooder Experience in 1902.

THE BEGINNING of the hatching season of 1902 found me living alone on a farm in a town with which I had scarcely gotten acquainted since moving there in the fall. This meant that everything that was done I had to do, chores in doors and out, cutting wood, and all of the thousand and one things that are ever waiting to be done on a farm, and especially in a new place. I had five pens of Buff Wyandottes mated by February first, eight or nine birds to a pen.

February 20th, I set a two hundred and twenty egg Cyphers incubator with a few less than two hundred eggs. The machine was in an empty room in the house where the temperature was rather changeable, but I succeeded in hatching seventy-five chicks—not a very bad hatch for the time of year—strong, lusty little fellows, all yellow and fluffy. I put them in a Peep-o'-Day brooder set in front of two windows in another room. They were fed rolled oats and dry bran with a little hard boiled egg, and soon developed big appetites.

When they were five or six days old I was suddenly obliged to go away and leave them for a whole day. There was not much time to look around for any one to see to the chicks while I was gone—the incubator would take care of itself—but my next door neighbor, an old man who had taken care of the hens for me a few days in the fall, agreed to look after the chickens. He had never seen a brooder before, and was not very familiar with the way such things worked, but I told him about the thermometer, and how to turn the lamp up or down in case the chicks were too cold or too warm; told him what to feed them, and everything that I thought would be necessary. But one thing I forgot; I did not tell him how to light the lamp, and it proved that this was the very thing I ought not to have omitted. I went off on an early morning train, not to return until after dark.

Everything went well till noon, when my temporary assistant came over to feed the chicks, and found the heat a bit too high. He turned the lamp down a little—a little too much, I have sometimes suspected, though there may have been other reasons for what followed—and went back. When he came again at three o'clock the lamp was out and the chicks were feeling pretty cold. Now if I had only pulled the lamp out and showed him how it was operated before I left, it would have been the work of but a moment to have lighted it again and soon had the brooder warmed up. But this I had not done, and he was afraid to investigate the mysteries underneath, for fear of upsetting some delicate arrangement that might be there.

Nevertheless, being a true Yankee with some share at least of the proverbial Yankee ingenuity, he set about to find some means by which the little fellows could be warmed. In the incubator room were hanging two cold blast lanterns, big lanterns with large burners and wicks an inch wide. He found these, lighted them, and set them into the front of the brooder. The lanterns fortunately were clean, and burned without much of that gas that often comes from a lantern burner, and the ventilators of the brooder were wide open. Their heat warmed the whole brooder up to a temperature that would have been comfortable enough for the chicks as they were running around in the day time, but the hover was cold, and they missed it. Seventy degrees is all right for a chick at work, but when it is dark he wants to go to bed in a warmer place.

When I got home at night, I found the chicks huddling up around the two lanterns and crying at the tops of their voices for something more satisfactory. Two lanterns were too few for seventy odd chicks to warm their toes around, and some of them were beginning to show the effects of the cold. I lighted the lamp as quick as I could, turned the flame up high, and took out the lanterns so the chicks would go under the hover. It seemed as though it took a very long time for the mercury in that thermometer to get up to ninety-five, but it did at last, and I kept it a little higher than ordinarily for several days. I lost only two or three chicks at the time from this experience, and I never noticed very much weakness among them afterwards that could be traced directly to this source, though I expected to lose a good share of them, as they must have been thoroughly chilled in spite of the lanterns.

By the time the next batch came off I had the brooders out of doors and the chicks running on the ground as soon as they were old enough to come out of the brooders. It takes them a while to use up the supply of nourishment that nature supplies them, but generally by the end of three days they have gotten accustomed to the ways of life in this chicken world, and learned to make frequent visits to the feed trays. This lot started well, and it was a pleasure to see them grow, and to see the nice buff wing feathers that some of them were starting. They seemed to be even gaining on the first lot a little, but when they were about five weeks old, old enough to leave the brooders if I had needed the room, I got a new lot of wheat that did not prove to be very good for them. It looked very good for "chicken wheat," was not scorched nor very dark colored, and I thought it was a bargain at about two-thirds of the price of good wheat. But soon after I began feeding it I noticed that the chicks did not appear to be feeling quite so well, especially the youngest ones. I could not imagine what the matter was, and kept on feeding the wheat for a week longer. Then the chicks began to die, one or two a day, and quite often the largest and best ones in the flock. Finally I suspected the wheat, since nothing else was any different from what it had been all along, and stopped feeding it. After another week the chicks stopped dying and began to thrive again, though they never quite made up the two weeks they had lost. I was careful after this to get good wheat for the little chicks, and the later hatches escaped such an experience as these first two had had.

I have read somewhere in an article on mating Buff Plymouth Rocks that any check in the growth of the chicks will affect the color of the mature birds, and my experience with these chickens bears out this idea. They were from the same matings as the later hatches—or better if anything, for I put two or three more pullets into each pen when spring opened—and after they were weaned from the brooders, received the same treatment. But among all that were left, a hundred and twenty or more, there was not one good colored cockerel. I had planned these early hatches especially to get a few birds to take to the fair in September, but the best cockerel in the lot had so much white in his wings that it was out of the question to show him. I did not find so much difference in the pullets, and the ones that I kept have laid just as well as any this winter.

I think this is the most valuable lesson that I have learned from the year's experience, and profiting by it, I shall take more pains this season to have every chick do the very best that is possible, even though I do not raise quite so large a number.

LEON E. TRUESDELL.

Townshend, Vt.

A First Experience in Raising Chicks in Brooders, 1902.

MY EXPERIENCE in raising chickens in brooders began in March, 1902. In December, 1901, I attended the Maine state poultry show held in Lewiston, Maine, and became interested in the artificial raising of chickens, and decided to engage in the business in a small way. I examined the different styles of brooders on exhibition, both the hot air and the hot water systems. Some of them were called the "outdoor brooder," and the agents claimed that they could be used in any kind of weather safely. As I had never seen any in operation, I took it for granted that any contrivance that could be warmed by a kerosene lamp would answer the purpose.

Soon after the poultry show I bought a large Cyphers incubator of a man who had got all the experience he wanted in the poultry business, and with it a home made brooder in which he said he had kept one hundred chickens the previous season. It was a huge, ill constructed affair about eight feet long, four feet wide, and three feet high on the front side, and two feet on the back. The lamp chamber is in one end under the hover, which is in a space the width of the brooder, and two feet wide. The great fault in the construction is that the floor of the hover is overheated, causing leg weakness.

When I got the thing home and set up in the door yard among the snow drifts, it occurred to me that raising chickens in any outdoor brooder, however well constructed, in this locality in March and April would be neither safe nor convenient. I had planned to raise several hundred chicks for broilers and laying stock. Of course more brooders would be needed, but I decided that *one* of the kind described above was enough.

Here was a problem that demanded immediate solution, and one to which I had given no

[Continued on page 211].

"HOW TO MAKE MONEY WITH POULTRY AND INCUBATORS"

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POULTRY PRINTING,
PIGEON, PET STOCK.

Printing is the combined labor and time saver needed to succeed with chicks. 100 customers are served with 100 letter heads or envelopes at 75c.; 100 egg labels or tags at 60c. post-paid. "Ringlet" B. P. Rock eggs $1 per 13. JOHN ENGEL, Jr.,
Box 3, 90 Komorn St., Newark, N. J.

FIRST PRIZE

has been won repeatedly by our

BARRED AND WHITE ROCKS

At the world's largest shows, including Boston, New York, Toronto, Pittsburg, etc. For the **EGG TRADE** we have this year made special matings containing the pick of our immense stock, and will sell a limited number of

Eggs, $3 per 15; $5 per 30.

A few grandly bred cockerels at fair prices.
(CATALOGUE FREE.)

FISHERS ISLAND FARM,
Box C, Fishers Island, N. Y.

OAKES MAKES THEM HATCH

See advertisement of Oakes Mfg. Co., on page 218.

BUY EGGS OF DAVIS.

You know the record of my strain of Blue Barred Plymouth Rocks at Pan-American, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago, Boston, and numerous other shows. My **FIRST PRIZE PEN AT BOSTON, 1902,** was acknowledged by all to be one of the best ever shown.

Having sold so many eggs last spring, and stock this fall and winter, I have not shown this season, not caring to compete with my customers.

EGGS from 10 grand matings; 5 pens mated for exhibition chicks, and 5 for exhibition pullets, the same as I use myself and as good as there is in the country, regardless of price. $5 per 15; $5 per 26; $7 per 40; $10 per 65; $15 per 100. W. E. DAVIS,
Care of Merrimack Nat. Bank. Haverhill, Mass.

FARM-POULTRY.

Semi-Monthly.

The 1st and 15th of each month.

PUBLISHED BY

FARM-POULTRY PUBLISHING CO.,

Boston, Mass.

JOHN H. ROBINSON, Editor.

Price, One Dollar per year, in Advance.
Six months, 50 Cents.
Single Copies Five Cents.
One Sample Free.

TAKE NOTICE: Add to each F.-P. subscription, for postage, for delivery in Boston or substations of the Boston Post Office, also to foreign countries, 48 cents extra to yearly, and 24 cents for six months. This rule applies whether a subscription is straight or in combination with other papers.

Remit by P. O. or Express Money Order, cash or postage stamps in registered letter.

DON'T SEND SMALL CHECKS

On Banks other than Boston or New York unless you add 10 cents to the amount to cover cost of exchange. We cannot receive them otherwise. New rule of Boston Banks.

Address all letters, and make all payments payable to FARM-POULTRY PUBLISHING CO.,
22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Green Wrapper When you receive FARM-POULTRY in a Green Wrapper your subscription ends with that issue. Therefore, please send cash $1.00 to renew—for—

We Shall Always Stop the Paper when the time for which it is paid has expired; so that to avoid missing numbers all should renew promptly.

Change in Address—When ordering a change in the address, subscribers should be sure to give their former as well as their present address, or we cannot make the change; our list is kept by towns first.

Canvassers Wanted in every town to solicit subscriptions. Terms sent on application. Liberal commission paid in cash. Send for our Terms to Agents.

THE ADVERTISING RATE

is 30c. per Agate Line Each Issue.

Fourteen Lines in every Inch of single column space. Seven average Words make one line.

DISCOUNTS FROM ABOVE RATE depend entirely upon the amount of space used by an advertiser within a stated time. Send for Rate Card.

FORMS CLOSE.—Ads. must be received by the 5th and 20th of the month to insure insertion in the issues of the 15th or 1st, respectively.

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Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter.

FIVE DOLLAR Prize Article.

NINTH SUBJECT.

Selling Poultry and Eggs to Private Trade.

On this subject we want articles giving accounts of the writer's personal experience in building up a family trade in poultry products.

CONDITIONS.

This competition is open only to persons who have never received a cash compensation for an article on a topic connected with poultry keeping.

Each article must contain not less than 1,200 nor more than 1,500 words.

Each competitor must be a subscriber to FARM-POULTRY; name must be on our list at the time the subject upon which he competes is announced.

Articles in this competition must be received at this office on or before May 15th.

IMPORTANT.—Write only on one side of the paper.

Articles not winning prizes will be returned if stamps to prepay return postage are inclosed. For any such articles considered available for publication we will make cash offers.

Another Subject will be Announced May 1st.

Foreign Subscribers

Should note the special competition for them. The subject is

The Poultry Industry in My Country.

Competition closes July 1st.

EDITORIAL.

New England's Abandoned Poultry Farms.

"WE HAVE read a great amount of stuff about abandoned poultry farms of New England, but have never heard of or seen one in this country. When anyone out in the west gives up the breeding or rearing of fowls, and has a farm and set of harness on his hands, he usually finds someone who is ready to occupy the farm, and profit by the mistakes made by the former poultryman. We have in mind, too, such farms that were made to pay after being rightly managed. If we were asked, is the poultry business overdone? we would say in answer, no. If it were overdone in New England, why would that country be constantly calling for western poultry. Someone please name the cause of New England's abandoned farms, then. We would like to hear of it, and no doubt others would, too."

The above paragraph is clipped from an article "By a Fancier," in a recent issue of *Poultry Success*. It may be instructive to those contemplating engaging in poultry farming in New England, as well as informing to the curious elsewhere, to recite a few of the most conspicuous causes for the numerous idle poultry plants on New England farms. Of really *abandoned* poultry farms there are comparatively few.

In a general way it might be said that the reasons for these idle poultry plants are the same as the reasons for the numerous failures in poultry keeping, though in some cases it is evident that the failure in poultry keeping was largely due to a poor location, or an unsuitable situation. The greater number of the idle poultry plants, however, are the small plants of people who started them under conditions, and conducted them on lines which made success all but impossible. In the last analysis the reason for the abandonment of these ventures is found in the reason for the beginnings of them, misunderstandings and misrepresentations of the business.

A man who has room, some spare time, and perhaps a little money in some way gets the idea that a small poultry plant could be established on his premises, give him nice light work for his spare hours, and also contribute quite a neat sum annually to his income. A good many poultry plants started in that way not only fulfill expectations but in time are made an exclusive business. But many others — for one reason or another do not work out satisfactorily, and ultimately fall into complete disuse. If the proprietor owns his home he is not likely to either sell or rent it because he is through with the poultry buildings on it. If he bought for a poultry farm and holds his title subject to mortgage, the property is very likely to revert to original owner, and he, knowing the general demand in this section for small poultry farms, and perhaps knowing nothing at all about the value of the buildings or adaptability of any piece of land in question, considers them a help to him in reselling or renting the place. So the buildings stay there until they are past use, dilapidated and forlorn looking, several parties meantime having tried poultry farming there.

In such cases as first cited, too, the buildings are not likely to be removed from the land at once. They represent considerable money and for some time their owner hopes to get it out of them by selling them to be removed. Sometimes he does get a fair price for them. Sometimes he gets less than they would be worth for fire wood. Sometimes the buildings stay there until for very shame the proprietor tears them down and clears up the premises.

The remarks made apply mostly to small poultry plants on land not used for other farming. Where farmers have taken up and abandoned special poultry keeping it has generally been because they went to work on wrong lines, and could not make the poultry work fit in satisfactorily with other farming. In our judgment the great difficulty in these cases has been that as a rule the farmers of New England who have made a specialty of poultry have followed intensive methods too much, and have made unnecessarily hard work of it. Then when the care of poultry interfered too much with other work the poultry was neglected. Especially was this the case when the farmer felt that *he* was more sure of results from the other work.

There is another point which the western man, especially the man from a prairie state where large farms are the rule and the soil is deep and easily worked, does not appreciate unless he has seen New England. That is the very small proportion of land which the farmer of the prairie states would consider tillable land, and the smallness of farms generally. The writer from whom we quote refers to a "farm and a set of harness." In some parts of the west land, team and harness came pretty near being the whole thing in farming. In many parts of New England, to some extent also in New York state, and probably elsewhere in the east the small farmers are coming more and more into the way of hiring what work they need done with horses, because the team cannot be worked to advantage to anything even approaching the extent it is on most western farms, and for transportation the electric railways are more and more used. As one farmer a few miles out of Worcester remarked to us some time ago, "What's the use of taking a team to go to town when I go quicker and more comfortably by the electrics, and it actually costs me less to let my team stand in the barn idle and go to town on the electric car than to take the team? This was a farmer who had a large farm requiring several teams to work it. No wonder then that on the small farms where much of the field work must be done by hand the horse and harness are less and less important factors.

This scarcity of easily worked land furnishes another reason why some poultry equipments fall into disuse. The land not being worked easily is continuously used for poultry without crops being grown upon it to renovate it, until it becomes so contaminated that the fowls do not thrive, and the profits which were made when the farm was new for poultry shrink or disappear.

The western writer is right about there being no overproduction of market poultry and eggs in New England, but one can't go on any old farm and keep fowls any old way, and make a profit and a living. As people go into the business more cautiously and as they learn to strike the medium between the too careful intensive methods of average New England poultry plants and the too careless methods of average western farms, which suits New England farms, we shall have fewer unused and neglected looking poultry plants in New England. It ought also to be said that the proportion of failures to successes being probably about the same everywhere, the very fact that there are so many poultry farms in New England accounts for there being so many not in use.

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Express Rates.

A CORRESPONDENT in Vermont writes:—

"I don't know but the express rate question is altogether an old story, but I am having some trouble with it yet. The express agent here seems to be unwilling to ship anything except market poultry at less than double merchandise rates, so when in Brattleboro a few days ago, I went to the office there and inquired the rates on poultry. The agent told me there was no such thing as single rates for poultry except it was for market, and showed me his classification book (American Express Co., 1902) from which I copied the following:—

'Fancy Poultry in Slatted Coops—

'Between points where the merchandise rate is less than $2 per cwt.—1½ Mdse.

'Between points where the merchandise rate is more than $2 per cwt.—Mdse.'

"This seems to be limiting 'single rates' a good deal, and I wish to find out if this is a new departure on the part of the express companies, or if there is another section where a different classification may be found.

"I have not had a very extensive experience in shipping fancy poultry, but have never had any trouble about shipping at single rate until I came here from a Massachusetts town last year."

The rates as quoted above have been in force, we think for about three years; for a period of several years before that the single merchandise rate obtained without exception, for fancy poultry in slatted coops, or in cloth covered coops when the coop was so constructed that the cloth was not necessary to confine the fowls. Previous to that time the rate on fancy poultry had been double merchandise rates. To state the present rate conditions fully a little more should be given than given by our correspondent. The following covers the case:—

"POULTRY, LIVE.—

"If cloth covering is used and forms a necessary part of the coop, D. Mdse.

"Poultry, Fancy, in Slatted Coops—

"Between points where the merchandise rate is less than $2 per cwt.—1½ Mdse.

"Between points where the merchandise rate is $2 or more per cwt.—Mdse.

"The charge between points where the merchandise rate is less than $2 per cwt. must not be greater than the charge at $2 per cwt."

Shipping from Boston, the rate of $2 per cwt. is reached on shipments west to points in Ohio, of which Cincinnati is one; and on shipments south to points in Maryland and Virginia, Richmond, Va., being one of the points to which the rate per cwt. is exactly $2. Shipments to points beyond these go at single merchandise rates when in slatted coops.

The effect of the last clause quoted from the instructions is to make the rate per one hundred pounds practically the same for all points to which the single merchandise rate from Boston is $1.35 or over per cwt., yet less than $2 per cwt. Thus the rate to Brockport, N. Y., is $1.50. At 1½ times mdse. rate that would be $2.25. Here comes in the last clause of the instructions and makes the rate for fancy poultry in slatted coops to Brockport, N. Y., just the same as to Cincinnati, O., or Richmond, Va.

There may be reasons, not apparent to an outsider, why such an arrangement is fair and right. In this rule, as in rules governing the transportation of other live stock, we find evidence of a rule not to make the rulings on some special rates operate so that when the special rate applies the charge to a point as, say, Brockport, N. Y., shall not be higher than to another point, as Cincinnati, O. But the question that comes to us is: — Why should poultry at one and one-half times merchandise rates be treated differently from merchandise at regular rates, and also from poultry in covered coops at double rates? There is an arbitrary discrimination here for which we would like to know the reason.

To the common mind not informed of all the things considered in adjusting express rates, it appears as if there ought to be as much necessity of not having the rate to Brockport as high as the rate to Cincinnati as of not having it higher.

From our correspondent's statements it would appear that unless all his shipments from or to his Massachusetts location were to points far south or west, the agent there had not been charging enough, and that unless shipments from or to his present location were all in cloth covered coops the agent there had been charging too much.

Whether it would be possible to secure such an adjustment of rates as would seem fair to poultrymen, we cannot say. Several years ago we tried to get facts from shippers and receivers of goods which could be presented to the heads of the express companies to show that the rulings did not work fairly, but those submitted to us, when examined carefully, did not make out a case strong enough to warrant us in going ahead with the matter.

Those Boston express agents with whom we then talked on the subject thought that the new ruling would make much less difference to shippers practically than would be expected from a reading of it. One agent brought up the point that the lower rate for poultry in slatted coops had operated to make shippers much more careless about the weight of the coops they used, and stated that frequently enough extra weight was put in the coops to

make a shipment cost more than it would have cost at double rates in a light cloth covered coop.

Asked if he thought that a reason for the change of rate, this agent replied that he did not know, was not informed of the reasons for the change, but imagined it might be. He knew that the condition he had mentioned obtained very largely.

Another express agent mentioned the relatively greater expense of handling short distance shipments as a possible reason for the ruling which increased the rate on them. These statements of course were unofficial, yet they were interesting as giving an inkling of the grounds upon which the managers of the express companies changed a ruling satisfactory in its terms to one which on its face seems unfair to those paying for short distance shipments of fancy poultry.

We would like to see poultrymen take some concerted action toward getting an adjustment of the rates which would be satisfactory to all concerned. The first step toward this would seem to be to present receipts which show unwarranted inequalities in the workings of the present rules. This is not as easy as appears at first sight, because often the seemingly unwarranted qualities in rates are found on investigation to be legitimately accounted for by differences in transportation facilities and agreements. We have little doubt there are cases which compared will show the need of some change in rates, but it is difficult to get together those pertinent to the question and of real use in presenting the case for the poultrymen.

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A Close Contest.

THE close contest to date in the five dollar prize series is that on brooder experience in 1902, a number of the articles in which are published in this issue. The award is, we think, correctly placed, though every other article published is a close second, and we are thankful it is not necessary to grade those articles according to relative merit.

We do not expect to be able in every case where so superior a lot of articles come in one competition to publish so many of them, but this subject is of such general interest, and each article used seems to add to the instructiveness of the series, so we publish six, and five competitors will each receive compensation a little less in amount than the first prize.

In this same competition were also offered several other articles of such interest that with the permission of the writers we want to hold them a little while and see if we can find room for them.

These contests are discovering a number of people who have something to say and can say it. True a number of them have had but limited experience, and could not now write on a wide range of subjects relating to poultry matters, but if, as experience comes to them, they acquire the habit of relating their experiences in good concise articles, they may make their ability to tell what they know profitable to themselves as well as helpful to others.

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Editorial Notes.

The worst has come to the worst. Again we are called "pessimistic." Why? Because we state facts which don't suit some people.

* * * *

The old story about the man who wanted capon eggs must for a time take a back seat. Shortly after we published the half tone cut of the first prize Novice Light Brahma cock at Boston, Curtiss Poultry Farm, of Assinippi, Mass., owners of the bird received a letter asking in what particular Novice Light Brahmas differed from others. The writer stated that he had seen the cut in FARM-POULTRY, and though he was unable to see that there was any difference he supposed there must be, and if so he would like to try some stock or eggs. This reader should have read the editorial on "Novice Classes at Big Shows," also that on "Dissipation in Poultry Reading," in the same paper.

* * * *

Leslie's Monthly tells its readers that: — "The American Standard of Perfection, as drafted and copyrighted by the American Poultry Association, contains the names of 116 varieties of fowls, 115 of which are due to the development of man. God made only one — a homely, wild thing, which made its home in the jungle along with the rest of the primeval creation. By intelligent breeding, fanciers have produced fowls of all sizes, from the diminutive bantam to the mammoth Bronze turkey; one a tiny bit of feathered vanity, weighing only a few ounces, and the other a bulky fowl weighing from forty to sixty pounds — as much as a half grown boy. Results equally wonderful have been accomplished in color effects. There are varieties in red, black, brown, and white, with nearly all possible combinations, beside buff and Andalusian blue. The fanciers have shown that they can lace, stripe, spangle, or bar the feathers of their birds in any way to satisfy their individual fancy. In fact, about all they have left undone is to put their initials on the feathers of the birds."

* * * *

That freshly illustrates the dangers of writing from a little information. The 116 varieties comprise chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys, and the jungle fowl is not included in the list at all. Certainly the chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys were not derived from a common ancestor of the *gallus bankiva* type. It is by no means certain even that the chickens were. As for the relative beauty of the products of nature and of man, there is rather more of the beauty that people see without having some one point it out in nature.

* * * *

The Feather for April comes to us changed to same size pages as F.-P. One of the reasons given is that on such pages advertising is much better displayed. Advertisers discovered this long ago. If an ad. fails to give results looked for in F.-P. the cause must be sought elsewhere than in the position of the ad. We congratulate our contemporary on its progressiveness.

* * * *

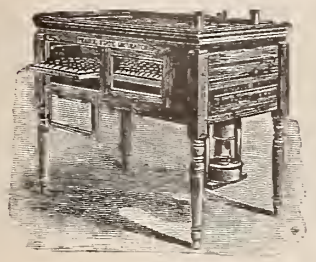
There is not going to be any boom in Dorkings in this country, and we hope none of the friends of the breed will make any extraordinary claims for it. At the same time we like to see the interest that is taken in it. The writer has for some time intended to keep some Dorkings for a few years to find out something about them at first hand. About the first of December last we came into possession of a pen of a cockerel and six of the Silver Gray variety females from the yards of a well known Canadian breeder. Side by side with our Light Brahmas five Dorking hens (one was lost early in January) have laid better since about three weeks after their arrival than any pen of the Light Brahmas. The hens stood the cold snaps well, the egg yield not falling off at any time, but the cockerel frosted his comb badly, and went off in condition while it was healing.

* * * *

That is one side of the story. The other is that the Dorkings eat nearly twice as much as an equal number of Brahmas do, and then do not keep in as good condition; nor, though abundantly supplied with grit and shell, do they lay the uniformly good shelled eggs the Brahmas do. Their eggs are large, 28 ounces and better to the dozen, but we think a close comparison of cost of food and value of eggs would show much against the Dorkings, for they have eaten much more, and have laid but a few more eggs.

PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATORS

And Brooders



Are the **STANDARD** by which all other makes are valued. They are used almost exclusively on the largest poultry and duck farms the world over and by the U. S. Government on its experimental farm at Washington.

They have won more **FIRST PRIZES** than all others combined—more than 350 in America alone—and in foreign countries more than all other American makes.

Moisture or Non-Moisture?

Non-Moisture is a proposition which has been worked overtime during the past six or eight years, until it is thoroughly tired out and exhausted. The truth of the matter is, there is no machine made which requires no moisture under all conditions and in any and every locality. There are none made (which have the reputation of being first-class machines), which under certain conditions and in certain localities, do not make better hatches without, than with, applied moisture. It is entirely a question of locality—in some places the air is moist, in others dry; some are moist part of the year and dry the remainder.

It is a well known fact that the operators of the non-moisture machines do apply moisture when it is needed, just the same as they do with other machines; and get better hatches thereby.

We claim that the **PRAIRIE STATE** incubators are as near being non-moisture machines as were ever made, and have preached that fact for the last ten years or more. Hundreds of users of them apply no moisture; other hundreds do not have to at certain seasons, while at others they use it, as needed.

It is the Same With Every Other Make of Incubators.

Besides being practically a non-moisture machine the "**PRAIRIE STATE**" incubator is the simplest in construction, easiest to care for, and has the best **THERMOSTAT** that was ever put in an incubator.

That the **PRAIRIE STATE** incubators and brooders give the best satisfaction, one has only to read the many testimonials (not bought) in our new catalogue, for proof.

We have issued a condensed catalogue for general distribution which will be sent free on application. Our large 152 page catalogue, just out, the finest piece of catalogue work ever put out by an incubator concern, is really helpful and useful. We will send a copy of it only on receipt of request for issue "H. K." Send to nearest agent or to home office.

Prairie State Incubator Co., Homer City, Pa.

Prairie State Incubators

WRITE TO

JOS. BRECK & SONS, 47 to 54 N. Market St., Boston, Mass.

They are New England selling agents, show a full line of the Prairie State **INCUBATORS** and **BROODERS**, and will mail catalogue FREE and quote factory prices.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS.

THE OBJECT OF THIS DEPARTMENT IS TO HELP READERS OF THE PAPER IN EMERGENCIES. It is a short order bureau of information.

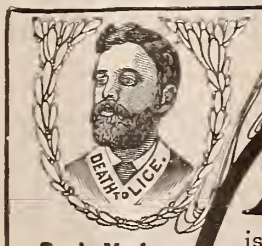
Correspondents who ask for information or advice in matters requiring prompt attention, will be answered in the earliest possible issue of the paper made up after their inquiries are received. If inquirers will keep in mind that THE FORMS FOR AN ISSUE BEARING DATE OF THE 1ST DAY OF A MONTH CLOSE ON THE 20TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH, and THE FORMS FOR AN ISSUE BEARING DATE OF THE 15TH DAY OF A MONTH CLOSE ON THE 5TH DAY OF THAT MONTH, they may know just how soon replies to questions can reach them through the paper. Inquirers are requested also to keep in mind that while an important feature of the paper, this department can only be given its due proportion of attention, and when inquiries requiring special investigation before a reply can be made are received, some time may elapse before the matter can be given attention.

IN CASES OF SPECIAL URGENCY THOSE WHO ENCLOSE STAMP FOR REPLY WILL BE ANSWERED AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE BY MAIL.

Correspondents whose questions do not come within the scope of this department as outlined above will be referred to the most recent available information in line with their inquiries.

BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR LETTER. WRITE YOUR NAME AND FULL ADDRESS VERY PLAINLY.

Buff and White Rocks. (N. A. V.)— "Are the Buff Plymouth Rocks as compact, and blocky in shape as the Whites? Do they lay as large an egg? Does the Standard call for same weights for both varieties? Which breed was principally used to make the Buff?" — The requirements for the two varieties are the same except as to color. As a matter of fact, however, we find in both varieties a great many birds that are either much above or much below the desired weight, and an almost endless variety in shape. The earliest Buff Rocks seem to have been S. C. Rhode Island Reds. Mr. Irving Crocker, writing in the Buff Rock catalogue five or six years ago, says: — "I well remember the first exhibit of Buff Rocks at Madison Square Garden. I believe it was their first appearance at a large show; at any rate, very few people had ever seen them, and for that reason they were a



Trade Mark Registered July 17, 1893

Lambert's Death To Lice Powder

Its Use Causes Breeders to Produce Fertile Eggs

is one of the very few things that will kill lice and not injure the hen, eggs or little chickens. It has been on the market for twenty years and has steadily grown in favor and popularity. It must do good work or poultry keepers would not buy it year after year. It is also invaluable for lice on Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs or Plants of all kinds. We have hundreds of testimonials as to its efficacy.

Prices, 10c and 40c

By Mail Postpaid.

Larger sizes 50c and $1.00 by express from here or nearest agency. For head lice on chickens and scaly shanks on fowls, use Death to Lice Ointment, 10c and 25c per box by mail. A 64 page book, "*How Best to Do Things*," free.

D. J. LAMBERT,

Box 800, Apponaug, R. I.

It Makes Hens Sit Better

It Never Injures Little Chicks

great curiosity; but, to tell the truth, it required a great stretch of imagination to see much resemblance to the Plymouth Rock type. So much Rhode Island Red blood had been used in order to fix the color that this mougrel breed completely oversbadowed, in the males at least, any suggestions of Plymouth Rocks. The females, as I remember them, were very much better, and gave great promise of what they have since become; but it was not until a Buff Cochin cross had been made that this new variety began to take on the ideal Rock shape and size."

Mr. Crocker's statement particularly interested me at the time it first appeared, because a few years before that in crossing Buff Leghorns and Buff Cochins, I got one pullet that was a good buff in color, and good Rock in shape. I did not breed Buff Rocks, and cared nothing about her. The few persons in my vicinity interested in the breed had not advanced beyond the stage when the fancier imagines only *pure* bred stock are useful in the breeding pen, and none of them would take her after her parentage was known. It is probable that in the hands of a good breeder she would have been valuable, for at that time it was hard to find a Buff Rock female anywhere near as good in appearance as she was.

Bloody Eggs. (J. H.) — "I keep a few Barred Plymouth Rocks. During the past month I have had from one of them two eggs which puzzled me some. Outside they looked all right. What should have been the white was a reddish color, and in it was a black substance about the size of a pin head." — Blood clots in the white of an egg come from a hemorrhage occurring in the upper part of the oviduct. The discoloration of the entire white is unusual, but is probably due either to the condition of the albumen or to persistence of the hemorrhage. For further particulars on this topic see answer under same title in last issue.

Incubator Chicks Dumpish. (S. H.)— "I have a lot of incubator chicks now three weeks old which until a few days ago were growing nicely. Now they have become dumpish, and the beaks get soft and long, and look swollen. What is the cause of this?" — I cannot say without knowing more about the case. It is probable that there have for some time been symptoms which an experienced operator would have noticed, but which escaped Mr. H. until they became very pronounced. I suppose that the condition of the beaks which he describes as above, is that usually seen in peaked looking chickens. If he can give particulars as to care and feeding, they may show a cause for the trouble — that is, show cause for failure to grow, and for the appearance of abnormal development of the beak, which is often seen in such chicks.

Sore in Hen's Mouth. (A. E.) — "What is the matter with my Barred Plymouth Rock hen? About two weeks ago I noticed her head swelling on one side. I looked in the mouth and there saw a black spot about the size of a pea. I thought it was canker, so used Conkey's roup cure for a week, but it got no better, so I tried salt pork, but no better. She is a nice hen, and I don't want to kill her."— Perhaps the sore spot was injured in some way, and some dirt or irritating substance got into it and keeps it sore. As I understand the statement of the matter, this does not seem to me to be a symptom of disease, but looks more like an injury. A very careful examination of the sore might disclose its nature, or show some foreign matter present.

Abdominal Dropsy. (O. H. L.) — "I have a Partridge Wyandotte hen hatched last May, and began to lay about Dec. 10, weighing then seven pounds. Late in the winter I noticed that the feathers were coming off behind, and she looked as old P. Rock hens do when they get fat, but I found it was not solid fat, but felt more like a collection of jelly. She has now retired, and is sitting and tends to business all right, but has a sort of looseness which causes her to discharge so much liquid that she keeps her feathers soiled and partially wet, but for some reason she has thus far kept it from the eggs. . . . Another trouble which I do not think has any connection with this, is shown by a rattling sound like bubbling in the windpipe when she breathes. It is not all the time, but when she moves or is disturbed it starts. Some of the other hens also have more or less of this. It is a coarse gurgling, as nearly as I can describe it, and occasionally a cough. The head and nostrils are clear and seem all right. Hens all eat well and appear bright. Would a little mouldy bread or bone result in either of these conditions? They have had but little of either."—The trouble is ascitis or abdominal dropsy, described by Dr. Woods in the Nov. 15, 1902, issue of this paper. This results generally from inflammatiou of the intestines, which might be caused by mouldy food. This disease is treated in the issue of the paper for Sept. 1, 1902. The looseness of the bowels is of course produced by inflammation of the intestines. The symptoms of a slightly roupy character develop probably from the generally weakened condition produced by the other disease. It is reasonable to infer that the other hens have some inflammation of the intestines and need treatment for that trouble. The hen with dropsy is probably incurable.

Crossing Leghorns and Brahmas. (C. P.)—"Would Leghorn hens be injured by crossing to Brahma cocks, they being so weighty? Would it make any difference which way the cross was made? If so, what? Is it possible that one cross would give larger birds and the other better layers?"—I never tried the cross but one way, i. e., with Leghorn males and Brahma hens. Occasionally one finds a Brahma male, that though large, does not seem to injure small hens if bred to them. I had a little black hen no larger than an average Leghorn that last year would manage to get out of a pen kept for the sitters and into a yard with a Brahma cockerel whose weight did not seem to hurt her in the least, and I have repeatedly seen small common hens in flocks where large Brahma males were kept, that showed no signs of breaking down. But to be on the safe side I would mate the other way, and the use of the Leghorn male has the added advantage of admitting of the use of more females with one male. I don't think there would be any such general differences as Mr. P. suggests. In the crosses I made with Leghorn (Brown) males and Light Brahma hens I got some pullets hardly larger than Leghorns, some almost as large as Brahmas, the greater number intermediate in size. In color the chicks of both sexes, while presenting quite a range of shades, were between Brown Leghorn and Light Brahma, a buff or yellow ground with some ticking and pencilling in the females, the males rather reddish. As layers the pullets of this cross with me never equaled either parent stock; but I had one cross of White Leghorn and Light Brahma that gave me pullets that were exceptional layers.

To Give Eggs Color. (A. M'C.)—"Will you tell me why it is that when my wife makes custard or puddings the eggs don't give them any color? They are white as if no eggs were put in them. I feed my hens whole grain and the scraps from the table. When we buy eggs at the store and make custard it is a nice yellow color."—I wish Mr. M'C. had stated what whole grain he fed. There are two things that will make yellow eggs—green food and corn. Fowls that have either a good

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A BIG WIN. Our Silver Wyandottes at Boston, '03, won 1, 2, 3 ck; 1, 2, 4, 6 hen; 1, 3, 4 ckl; 1, 2, 3, 4 pul; 1 pen. Also all specials, shape and color ribbons, and 66 out of 68. Stock, and one-half the eggs from best for sale at $5 for 15; $9 for 30; $12 for 45. John C. Jodrey, Box A. Danvers, Mass.

A SITTING of eggs from our famous matings of Barred, White and Buff Plymouth Rocks should produce some fine chicks, as they are from winners at the largest shows in this country. 15 for $2; 45 for $5. Spare a few breeders. E. F. Trask, Beverly, Mass.

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BLUE SWEDISH DUCKS are money makers. A limited number of eggs at $2 per 10; Wild Mallard duck eggs, $1 per 10. Arthur H. Sagendorph, Spencer, Mass.

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EGGS from choice pens of large, nicely feathered, heavy laying strain of Barred Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, and White Leghorns, 15, $1; 30, $1.75; 100, $5. Strong fertility and satisfaction guaranteed. E. W. Harris, Reading, Mass.

EGGS for hatching, from fine thoroughbred S. C. White Leghorns, Buff P. Rocks, and Bronze turkeys. Fertility guaranteed. Write me; I will use you well. T. D. Schofield, Woodstock, N. H.

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S. C. BROWN Leghorns and Black Minorcas, finest laying strains. My record at New York, Cleveland, etc., proves their exhibition merits. Eggs $2 per 15. E. B. Cridler, Box F, Dansville, N. Y.

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EGGS from high scoring Barred and White P. Rocks, White and Partridge Wyandottes, Lt. Brahmas, R. I. Reds, Brown Leghorns, and Black Minorcas, $1 for 15; $5. 100; Pekin ducks and African geese. Free illustrated catalogue. Grant Bros., 32 Bryant St., Malden, Mass.

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WHITE Wyandotte eggs $1 sitting. Pens headed by Smith and Castle Farm cockerels, good layers, large brown eggs. Evergreen Poultry Farm, 36 Evergreen Ave., Auburndale, Mass.

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75 PER CENT FERTILE guaranteed. Eggs from large, blocky snow White Wyandottes, $4 per 100. Order now. C. A. Stevens & Co., Box 6, Wilson, N. Y.

grass range or a liberal supply of fresh green food lay yellow eggs in spring, summer and fall. Comparatively few flocks of N. E. poultry keepers lay good yellow eggs in winter, because green food that is green is rarely fed, and the majority of the poultry keepers of this section seem to be very much afraid of corn. For the last two winters (except for a short period the past winter) I have had eggs that were always a rich yellow, and sometimes so yellow that Mrs. R. would ask to have the color in them reduced because she didn't like to eat such very yellow eggs. The coloring matter has come from corn—yellow corn and yellow corn meal. The period mentioned when eggs were not yellow was when by way of experiment I reduced the corn meal in the mash and substituted red dog flour and bran and increased the meat scraps a little. The hens did not like this mash as well nor did they lay as well as on a ration with more corn meal. Judging by the fact that a slight difference in the quantity of corn in the ration seems to make considerable difference in color of the yolk of the egg, I am led to think that perhaps the food ingredient that gives this yellow color is used first by the system for other purposes, and that only the surplus is available to give color to the yolk. This theory may not stand a close examination and investigation, but the facts as I find them seem to point that way.

Do R. I. Reds Breed True? (R. C. R.)—"Can you tell me if Rhode Island Reds breed true, and if there is any difference in that respect between the rose and single comb varieties? I have several breeders to whom I wrote for quotations on eggs, but they do not reply, so I presume they do not."—While some of the most carefully bred stocks of R. I. Reds in both varieties throw a large proportion of chicks approximating the desired color, I suppose that even with the progress that has been made, more marked differences in color still appear in the R. I. Reds than in any other breed or variety. This is doubtless in part because their color is a difficult one to handle, but is also very largely because of the very much mixed ancestry of the breed. Most of the breeds that were made by design are in their established forms or types mixtures of several similar stocks produced in different ways, and so have in them the blood of a number of different varieties. But in the R. I. Red (as anyone who has seen the stock on R. I. farms and knows how those farms have been searched for specimens knows), there must be a little of the blood of pretty near every fowl in the list. Then there has been so much difference of opinion as to correct color, and so many breeders have been mating on lines that every student of buff color (and the red of the R. I. Red is not much different from the "cinnamon buff" in some Cochins of a few years ago) knows are wrong that there is not even that average uniformity which might have been attained by this time with more intelligent and more careful selection. However, if Mr. R. likes the Reds and wants to breed them, he can get a satisfactory proportion of birds that are a credit to him from the best stock now and from average stock with two or three seasons of careful breeding.

Poultry on an Island. (O. C. S.)—"Will you please give me a little good advice in regard to poultry farming? I have an offer to take an Island of 18 acres, which is from 7 to 15 ft. above the level of the lake. The land is yellow gravely loam. For ducks and geese I think it is all right, but don't know how it would be for chickens. . . . I hope you will give this a wide consideration as I want to put about $3000 into it."—The best advice I can give Mr. S. is not to take such an offer, and not to put anything into the poultry business if he is to run it himself until he knows enough of poultry keeping to decide such questions as he asks for himself. If some one else is to do the work the investor ought either to really know something of the business or be absolutely sure that his man does.

Keeping Hens in Condition. (J. U.)—"I have some W. C. Black Polish which were all laying as well as my Leghorns during November and December until I sent them to a show Dec. 20th. When they came back none were laying, nor did any commence until March 15th. I concluded they were too fat, so cut down to two meals a day, when they

A MONTAUK PULLET.
Bred by Dr. E. L. Miles, Sag Harbor, N. Y.

Miles' Montauks

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Have been winners from Boston to Oakland. I offer eggs from my selected pens—3 for cock'ls, 4 for pullets. Fowls and chicks both for exhibition and breeding. Some choice pullet breeding cock'ls for sale—27 years with Barred Rocks exclusively.

$5 for 13; 2 sittings $8; 4 sit. $15; 6 sit. $20; 100 eggs $25. I claim one of best laying strains in America. No circulars. Write for wants.

E. L. MILES, Sag Harbor, L. I., N. Y.

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PIT GAME fowls and Pit Bull Terrier dogs. John P. Colby, Newburyport, Mass.

CORNISH INDIAN GAMES. For the present season I have mated an extra fine pen of Cornish Indian Games headed by the first prize cockerel at Boston, 1903. Will offer a limited number of eggs at $2 per 15. Arthur H. Sagendorph, Spencer, Mass.

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TOULOUSE and Embden ganders bred from our winners. Fernwood Farm, Trenton, N. J.

GLASS.

GLASS, All sorts and sizes second hand glass and sash for poultry houses. Also lumber, etc. Frederic T. Whitney, Building Razer, 470 Harrison Ave., Boston, Mass.

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SEA SHELLS for poultry $1 a bbl.; 5 bbl. lot $4.50; sample 2c. Guilford Shell Concern, Guilford, Conn.

HAMBURGS.

EGGS for sale from Silver Penciled Hamburgs. M. F. Burnham, Auburn, Me.

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HOUDAN eggs from prize birds at $2 per 15. Heavy layers and non-sitters. Pine Ridge Poultry Farm, P. O. Box 159, Waban, Mass.

EGGS from prize winning Houdans, $1 per 15. M. F. Burnham, Auburn, Maine.

HOUDANS, large fine birds, winners. Eggs $1 sitting. Fred Pilkinton, Portland, Mich.

IDEAL Houdans.—winners Boston, other leading shows; 15 eggs $1. C. E. Marshall, Rowley, Mass.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS.

INCUBATORS. If in good condition bought and sold at reasonable prices. Incubator eggs a specialty, furnished on short notice, of any variety of fine poultry. Also duck and goose eggs in large quantities. Circulars free. C. A. Porter, Box F, Flatrock, Shelby Co., Indiana.

300 EGG Prairie State incu. nearly new $15, a bargain. Wm. J. Hogan, Wallingford, Ct.

TWO Monarch incu., 600 egg capacity, good condition. W. L. Merrill, Cumberland Center, Me.

600 EGG Monarch incubator, first class condition, $25. B. F. Ball, Oakville, Conn.

INCUBATOR AND LAMP WICKS.

THE SUNLIGHT CARBON WICK lasts 20 times longer than ordinary wicks. Sample 10c. Best on earth; clear white light. S. G. Robinson, printer of F.-P., 267 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Mass.

LANGSHANS.

BLACK Langshans, 10th season breeding these noble birds, exclusively. Stock this season best ever. Eggs $1 per 13; $5 for $2. A few choice cockerels cheap for quality. Geo. C. Jones, Parkview Poultry Yards, 462 Pleasant St., Brockton, Mass.

BLACK Langshan eggs for sitting, $1 and $1.50 per 13. C. H. Scales, Leominster, Mass.

WHITE LANGSHANS. For 13 years I have produced winners at America's largest shows, Boston, New York, Chicago, etc. Eggs from prize matings, $3, 15. Geo. P. Coffin, Freeport, Maine.

LEGHORNS.

EMPIRE State S. C. Wh. Leghorn farm stock for sale, $1.50 up. Eggs $1 per 15; $5 per 100; catalogue free. Zimmer Bros., Weedsport, N. Y.

BROWN Leghorns, exclusively, 242 egg strain, bred for laying, large size, farm range, fertility guaranteed. 20 eggs $1; 100 $3.50; 300 $10; 1000 $30. James M. Smith, Perkiomenville, Pa.

S. C. WHITE Leghorns, bred for business, extra large and heavy layers. Eggs $1 per 15; $5 per 100. Grace J. Day, Greenfield, Mass.

LEGHORNS of the four leading types, grand stock, prize winners as well as great laying strains. 42 prizes and specials on 38 entries. Circular free. Robert T. Bourn, Templeton, Mass.

PRAIRIE Farm S. C. White Leghorns. Eggs 15, $1.50; 100, $6. Yearling hens $1 each. Geo. L. Ferris & Son, Atwaters, N. Y.

SINGLE Comb White Leghorns, large, vigorous, handsome, heavy layers; fine in carriage, comb, and head furnishings. Eggs, $1 per 15; $5 per 100. E. J. Temple, Hinsdale, N. H.

S. C. Brown Leghorn eggs, $1.50 per 13. Zimmer strain. E. W. Hart, Blackinton, Mass.

MCELHENY S. C. White Leghorns are bred to lay, are fed to lay, and do lay large white fertile eggs. There's nothing on earth can lay like McElheny's White Leghorns. Eggs from choice mating, $1.50 per 15; $2.50 per 30; $3.50 per 50; $6 per 100. Frank L. McElheny, Cuba, New York.

15 EGGS $1. S. C. White and Brown Leghorns. A. L. Gelser, Dalton, N. Y.

SINGLE COMB WHITE Leghorns, excellent layers, vigorous, standard bred. Eggs $1 per 15; $5 per 100; $12 per 300. Arthur G. Symonds, R. 15, Hopkinton, N. H.

30 YEARS breeding S. C. Brown Leghorns. Fine vigorous prize winning stock that will please you. Eggs same pens I breed from, 13—$1. E. G. Runnells, R. F. D. 1, Concord, N. H.

EGGS FROM STROWBRIDGE'S S. C. White Leghorns command a market premium all the year. My 400 breeders are backed by a 4 year trap record and 20 years breeding for fancy market eggs. My birds are large, healthy, range grown, uniform, and great winter and summer layers. Have laid well all winter. 15 eggs $1; 100, $5. J. W. Strowbridge, Box 55, Dundee, N. Y.

LEGHORNS, S. C. Whites exclusively, heavy laying, vigorous. Eggs $5 per 100; $1 per 15. Chicks $12.50 per 100; $2 dozen. Satisfaction guaranteed. H. D. Williams, Pearl River, N. Y.

BUFF LEGHORN EGGS, S. C., from prize stock of uniform even color, extra good shape and size, 15 eggs $1.50; 30, $2.50. Fertility guaranteed. No stock for sale. Prompt shipment. Dr. P. B. Peterson, Honesdale, Pa.

BOSTON, 1903, 3 blues on 4 entries in novice S. C. Brown Leghorns. Eggs, best pens $2; others 15, $1; 100, $5. J. A. Raddin, Cliftondale, Mass.

ONLY four yards, but they contain the very pick of the celebrated prize winning "Ohio strain" S. C. Brown Leghorns. Splendid exhibition and utility stock. Eggs 15, $2. Cir. F. M. Stone, Mutual, O.

S. C. WHITE Leghorn eggs from my best matings $2 per 15; 45 for $5. My Leghorns are heavy layers of large white eggs; grand birds. A. Blind, College Point, N. Y.

S. C. BROWN Leghorns, won eight prizes at Greenfield, scoring to 94. Eggs $1 per 13. C. N. Shaw & Son, Swift River, Mass.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS. Eggs from pen headed by first prize cock, Boston, 1903, $2 per 15; $3.50 per 30; from other pens, similar stock, $1 per 15. A. B. Sproat, Taunton, Mass.

LOSSOE'S lay. Leg. Heavy egg production and fancy combined. Many fine specimens should leave Sunny Ridge Yards in shells at $1, 15; $5 100; Ap't special $2, 30. F. R. Lossoe, DeFreestville, N. Y.

KULP'S 242 egg strain R. C. B. direct, Blanchard strain S. C. W. Eggs, Browns, $1.50; Whites, $1 per 15. Fred B. Rodman, 142 Shepard St., Lynn, Mass.

LICE KILLER.

PRESTO,—a liquid,—kills chicken lice and keeps them away. Death to all insects. Sample can by mail postpaid, 20 cts. Presto Mfg Co., Assining, N. Y.

MINORCAS.

1000 Minorcas, best quality, 28 page cat. Geo. H. Northup, R. F. D. 2, Raceville, N. Y.

WHITE Minorcas, (S. C.) of the finest of stock. Address, Harry Leibold, Delaware, Ohio.

WHITE MINORCAS that took 13 prizes at the Chicago show, Jan., 1903. For sale, breeders that would please any fancier. S. A. McWilliams, 3456 Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

BLACK Minorca eggs $2; cockerels reasonable. R. Story, 187 Arlington Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

ROSE and Single Comb Black Minorca pens headed by New York and Rochester 1st prize winners. Eggs reduced to $2; S. C. eggs $1 and $2, cock'ls $2 up. M. V. Allen & Son, Ovid, N. Y.

EGGS from my 4 grand yards of So. Framingham and Boston Minorca winners. Send for circular. W. D. Davis, So. Framingham, Mass. Sec'y of Black Minorca Club.

PRIZE stock. Eggs $3, $1. S. E. Norris, 16 N. Walnut St., East Orange, N. J.

ORPINGTONS.

CHOICE Buff Orpingtons, Partridge Ply. Rocks, new variety, my stock direct from the originator; 15 eggs $2. Arthur Waite, Rockville, Mass.

BUFF Orpingtons, some of the finest in the country, farm raised, from one of the very best strains ever imported. Eggs or fowls cheap for quality. H. A. Hannum, Cazenovia, N. Y.

THE ORPINGTON, 5cts. 60cts. year. Eggs all varieties from pens containing winners belonging to William Cook. W. P. Willett, E. Orange, N. J.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

PLY. Rocks, Barred and Buff, W. Wyan. Eggs, 15 $2. No stock. Pequot Poultry Farm, Mystic, Ct.

BATES' EXCELSIOR strain Wh. P. Rocks win again at Boston. Eggs that will produce winners $2 per 13; incubator eggs $5 per 100. Stock. S. A. Bates, Westboro, Mass.

BARRED P. Rock eggs from finest exhibition matings. At N. Y. state fair, Syracuse, 1902, won all firsts; at Cambridge, N. Y., 1902, four out of six firsts; at Hartford first pen, first pul., third ck. Ten selected pens. Eggs $3 per sitting; two sittings $5. Chas. H. Shaylor, Lee, Mass.

WHITE P. Rocks, winners Boston, Brockton, No. Abington, 3 silver cups this winter. Eggs from high scoring pens $2 per 15; choice c'kls $3 each. Inc. eggs $5, 100. Edw. T. Murphy, E. Whitman, Mass.

W. P. ROCKS exclu.; winners at Peterboro and Manchester, N. H., shows, score 94 to 95, stock for sale. Eggs from best pens $1.50 per sit., $5 per 100. W. M. Davis, Hancock, N. H.

B. P. ROCKS and S. C. R. I. Reds. At South Framingham, '02, won 1st and 2d on Barred Rock cocks; also 1st and 2d in novice class on cocks at Boston, '03. The Reds have won wherever shown. Stock and eggs for sale. B. Conant, Box 247, Bridgewater, Mass.

AT BOSTON, Jan. 13—17, 1903, I entered two pens of my blue ribbon strain of White Plymouth Rocks and won 1st and special, and 2d pens; 10 pens competing. Eggs in season $5 for 15; $3 for 30; stock for sale. If you desire the best and honest dealing, write to R. S. Chalker, Higganum, Conn.

GRAND yards of splendid stock from Bradley Bros. direct. Cockerel and pullet matings. No finer breeders or prize winners anywhere. Get my list of winnings. Fertile eggs $3, 13; $5, 26. Satisfaction guar. Wm. B. Wister, Pine Iron Works, Pa.

TROUT BROOK Poultry Yards, Rockport, Mass. High grade Buff and W. Rocks. 13 eggs $1; 26 eggs $1.75. John Tufts, proprietor.

BUFF Rocks and Buff Cochin Bantams; won 1st year 29 premiums at 4 shows; this year 23 premiums at 2 shows. Bred them 7 years. Greatest laying strain of dark brown eggs on earth. Pens and stock. Dr. C. W. Coolidge, Warner, N. H.

BUFF AND BARRED Rocks, large, strong stock. Average 200 a year. 15 eggs $2. E. D. Hawes, Franklin, Mass.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

BARRED, Buff, White P. Rocks. Splendid, properly bred standard and utility stock. The big, strong, greatly admired, above weight kind. Eggs $3, $2; 26, $3.50. N. C. Messer, Hull Ave., Pittsfield, Mass.

WHITE P. ROCK eggs from my prize winning stock at Grafton, Fitchburg, Framingham, and Boston, won on every bird; $2 per sitting; 3 sittings $5; incubator eggs $5 per 100; cockerels.
J. H. Boland, Westboro, Mass.

EXHIBITION and utility B. P. Rocks, grand lay., 15, $1.50. Wm. J. Hogan, Wallingford, Ct.

THOMPSON'S Bar. Ringlets. Eggs, choice matings, 15, $1. Stock. J. P. Lightfoot, Penn Yan, N. Y.

THOROUGHBRED Wh. Plymouth Rocks, chalk white, nice yellow legs; low combs and tails. Eggs only $1 sitting. R. C. Hinkle, Millersburg, Pa.

BUFF Rocks, large brown eggs from healthy farm raised stock 75c. per 15. Miss H. Lincoln, 215 County St., Taunton, Mass.

IF YOU WANT eggs in winter try Smith's Barred Rocks, with an average record of 206 eggs per year. Pullets mature at five months. Eggs from best pens, $1.50 per 15; $4 per 45; incubator eggs $5 per 100. Pullets and yearling hens $2 each.
W. C. Smith & Sons,
Utility Poultry Farm, Box 568, Haverhill, Mass.

BARRED, White, and Buff Ply. Rocks. Eggs $1 per sitting of 15. Gardner, Burdick, and Empire strains. John Weckesser, Lafargeville, N. Y.

BARRED PLYM. ROCK eggs $1. 15; $5, 100. Williams & Metlar, Box 13 B, N. Brunswick, N. J.

KINGMAN'S Gold Mine Buff Plymouth Rocks are the cup and largest winners at the great Chicago and Michigan state shows, January, 1903. Eggs $3 per sitting. H. R. Kingman,
Battle Creek, Mich.

POULTRY SUPPLIES.

EGGS in winter are guaranteed by using my famous Green Mountain Egg Food. Booklet free.
D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

CROWTHER'S REDS have been leaders since 1895, both Rose and Single Comb. If you want utility, vigor and beauty and the best winning strain in the country, get eggs from my N. Y., Boston, Phila., Prov., and Framingham prize stock. Good hatch and satisfaction guaranteed. Choicest eggs at $2 for 15; $3 for 26; $5 for 50.
John Crowther, Fall River, Mass.

PRIZE stock R. I. Reds. Eggs for hatching 15, 75cts.; 100, $4. Brookside Poultry Yards,
J. W. Young, Prop., Box 107, Lanesville, Mass.

SYMMES' R. I. Reds won every possible first and second prize last year at Atlantic City, Newark, Wakefield and Reading. None better anywhere. Circular free. Fred M. Symmes, Winchester, Mass.

A. E. CUMMINGS, Hudson, N. H., eight years breeder of Rhode Island Reds for beauty and utility. My stock is farm raised, very healthy and vigorous, of fine color and prolific laying qualities. Eggs from prize winning stock $1 per 13; $2 per 30. Member of R. I. Red club.

RED FEATHER FARM won 4 firsts at Cleveland, 3 seconds, 1 third at Boston. Eggs from winners. Cockerels and large farm for sale.
Frank Metcalf, Warren, Ohio.

R. I. REDS eggs $1.50, 15. Vig. farm raised, heavy laying strain. W. R. Barry, Rochester, Vt.

WALTER SHERMAN, View Farms, Newport, R. I., has three large flocks of farm bred hardy and prolific poultry. Rhode Island Reds, Light Brahmas, and Barred Rocks, from which he sells eggs to hatch at 6 cents each. Ask for booklet.

FIRST prizes for 6 years in strongest competition. S. C. eggs $2 per 13; $3 per 40. R. C. eggs $3 per 13 straight. Cir. Stafford Bros, Fall River, Mass.

SCORED REDS. My reds won 4 firsts at Greenfield, Mass., Dec., 1902. Cock 92½, hens 92½, 91½, pen chicks 184½. Limited number sittings from rose and single comb pens containing these and other winners, $1.25 per 15; $3 per 45. N. B.—I bred all my winners. E. K. Sheldon, Montague, Mass. Member R. I. Red Club.

TOMPKINS' Rhode Island Reds won 1st at Boston, Hartford, So. Framingham. Eggs and breeding stock for sale. Lester Tompkins, Concord, Mass.

RHODE Island Red. Rose and Single Comb. I have the red eye and undercolor. Took 5 firsts, 2 seconds and 2 thirds at Windsor Co. fair; 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th S. C. cockerel at St. Albans, Vt.; 2d and 3d S. C. cockerel at Orange, Mass. Eggs $2 for 15.
I. C. Mower, Woodstock, Vt.

ROSE COMB R. I. Red eggs from prize stock, $2 per 13; $5 per 39.
John E. Davis & Bro., Marblehead, Mass.

R. AND S. C. fine birds, $1 up; eggs, $1 and $2 per 15; Bronze and Buff turkey eggs, 25c.
A. R. Emery, Waits River, Vt.

1200 RED BREEDERS, "You have got the best stock of farm raised Reds I ever saw." Dr. Aldrich, judge at Boston and New York, 1903. Less than 50 birds in my best pens the cream of this great stock. Perfectly uniform in color; hundreds of nice birds in general stock. See adv. page 198. F. W. C. Almy,
Tiverton Four Corners, R. I.

BEAN'S S. C. Reds won at Boston, 1903, 2d and 4th pullets, and 3 ribbons on brown eggs, after taking all firsts; 7 specials and silver cup at the great No. Abington, December show. Best eggs, $2 per 15. Descriptive booklet free.
I. W. Bean, So. Braintree, Mass.

R. I. REDS, R. and S. Comb, 1903, Boston, 1903, won 1st R. C. ckl; 2d, 5th pul; 1st R. C. pen; 1st S. C. pul. Lawrence, 3 firsts; Framingham, 3 firsts; Schenectady, N. Y., first; and first Chicago; 32 prizes since Nov. Eggs $1 per sitting; $3 for 50; $5 for 100. Standard and printed description of Reds with each order. W. S. Harris, Mansfield, Mass.

S. C. FEMALES, first prize at New York, Boston, and Hartford. Unsurpassed for shape, size, and color. Stock and eggs for sale.
Wm. F. Wordell, Fall River, Mass.

RHODE ISLAND REDS, S. C. Eggs from prize stock Golden Buff strain, uniform even color, extra good size and shape; 15 eggs $1.25; 30, $2. Fertility guaranteed. No stock for sale. Prompt shipment. Dr. P. B. Peterson, Houesdale, Pa.

ROSE COMB R. I. Reds of that beautiful shade of red; are red to the skin; large size, prolific layers. Eggs $2 per 15. Hiram Jones,
Suffield, Conn.

ROSE COMB R. I. Reds prize winners; Stafford Bros., Park, Crowther, and other strains. Eggs $1.50 per 15; circular free.
Chas. F. Fish, South Swansea, Mass.

ALLEN'S Single Comb R. I. Reds are the largest Reds, the reddest Reds, and they are the Reds that take all the prizes where they are exhibited. For show record and prices send for catalogue.
Chas. H. Allen, P. O. Box 112.
Anponsaug, R. I.

R. I. REDS exclusively. Rich red and red eyes. Rose and single comb; five years breeder of these splendid fowl; 1st and 2d premium birds 3 successive generations. Eggs $1 for 15. 2 S. C. cockerels for sale. R. H. Pierce & Co.,
Belair Ave., Brockton, Mass.

S. C. R. I. Red eggs $1.25 per 15. Circular free. M. H. Lindsey, Northville, N. Y.

ROSE, SINGLE, and Pea Comb Reds. Large brown eggs from farm bred stock, five cents each. Our entire stock has free range. No eggs from special matings; they are all good.
Clark Farm, Concord, Mass.

soon began to lay. I now give them a handful per fowl of corn and oats mixed well covered in litter in the morning, and mash in the evening. They go at the mash very greedily. Do you think this feed is enough to keep them in laying condition, or must they lay eggs already formed and then stop?"—If the feeding is too light the hens will stop laying before long. The length of this period of laying will not depend upon eggs already formed, but upon how long the hens can go on laying on a ration not sufficient to make heavy egg production and also keep the hens in good condition. For a while they can draw on the fat stored in their bodies to supplement the ration. When that is exhausted, if they keep on laying heavily it will be at the expense of flesh. They will grow thin and in time must stop laying. They may quit laying before going out of condition, but at this season of the year are more likely to lay until exhausted. To prevent this give them all they will eat and keep in good condition and laying. Either feed a little more freely in the morning or give some grain at noon.

Poultry Keeping in New Hampshire. (S. C.)—"I would like to start in the poultry business in New Hampshire, in the White Mountain district. Would you advise me to that locality?"—As far as I know the locality is good. There is a good summer trade, and it is not too far from Boston to ship them if local market is not satisfactory.

Best Poultry House. (S. C.) — "What would be the best poultry house on scratching shed plan for American breeds, for 400 to 500 hens?"—That depends on how it is proposed to keep the hens, whether on the intensive plan or colonized. The scratching shed idea can be applied to any house. Mr. C. may see one good application of it in the article, "A Good, Cheap Poultry House," in the issue of this paper for July 1, 1902.

Wants Book on Diseases of Poultry. (G. W. S.)—We can mail you a book on poultry diseases, "Farm-Poultry Doctor," from this office, price 50c. I cannot give you any advice on a case about which you only state that the comb is dark and the bird stands around. With fuller statement of symptoms I might help you. Am surprised that you have found nothing about diseases in this paper, for there is something in almost every issue, and sometimes a good deal.

Diarrhœa. (J. P.) "I am troubled with diarrhœa in my flock of chickens. I have been feeding mash consisting of equal parts bran, middlings and corn meal, with about 8% meat meal and ¼ in bulk clover. Mash fed in the evening, with wheat or oats in the morning, and occasionally corn at night. I am now trying feeding nothing but grain, principally wheat, but without much effect yet."—If the mash is sloppy, doughy, or looking much like wet sawdust—as some mashes do—that might cause the diarrhœa. Another possible cause is slight cold, sometimes caused by too close quarters affecting the bowels, though head, throat, and lungs seem all right. If dry grain does not correct bowels try feeding a mixture of bran and corn meal, dry; keeping it standing before the fowls.

Preserving Eggs. (J. P. G. and others).—Several parties ask for information about preserving eggs now for summer use. I am unable to give any information in addition to what is given in articles which have been published in this paper, and that is all from other sources. Have never had occasion to preserve eggs, and have no experience with any process.

It seems to me that the mere fact that though most methods of preserving eggs have been known for a long time the storing of eggs on a large scale was never practicel until the cold storage processes were perfected, is a very strong argument against relying upon any of these other processes. To be sure many lots of limed eggs and eggs preserved in other ways remain in good condition; but there evidently has not been such generally good results that preserving eggs by those processes offered inducements to commercial enterprise. It doesn't require the spoiling of a very large proportion of the eggs put up to take all the profit out of the venture.

Unless the circumstances of those who inquire about this matter are exceptional, I would advise them to sell eggs fresh at best market prices. They ought to be able to have fresh eggs enough for their own use at any time, without storing. (In thirteen years we have failed to do that just for a few weeks last fall, and the failure was not complete for all of that time). If they want to store eggs to sell that is different, but it is doubtful whether they can make that profitable unless they have enough to make it worth while to put them in cold storage. There are so many cold storage plants now that one who wants to store produce can generally reach one of them, and storage charges are as a rule reasonable.

However, if any readers of the paper can give us useful information about storing eggs at home on a small scale I will be glad to publish it.

RHODE ISLAND REDS.

R. C. Rhode Island Reds, that are as fine as ever graced any man's yard, $2 per sitting; cockerels $2. Geo. P. Barnard,
Fort Edward, N. Y.

ROSE AND SINGLE Comb R. I. Reds, good size, shape and color, bred for utility, farm raised, eggs $1.50 per 15; $5 per 100.
F. R. Brownell, Little Compton, R. I.

READ'S S. C. Reds at Boston, 1903, won both shape and color specials, and the $100 champion challenge cup for best R. I. Red male; first prize at seven other shows. Eggs $2 per 15; limited stock for sale. Frank H. Read, Fall River, Mass.

PAQUIN'S Reds win in strong competition eight 1st, four 2d, one 3d, and two special premiums out of seventeen entries in 1902, except those at Boston in 1903. Eggs from pens containing these winners carefully mated, both Rose and Single comb, $2 per 15; $6 per 50; $10 per 100. Send for circular
R. W. Paquin,
34 Ingraham St., East Providence, R. I.

SICILIAN BUTTERCUPS.

SICILIAN Buttercups, imported, outlay any bet.; very large eggs. C. Loring, Dedham, Mass.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

ALL the leading varieties. Vigorous and healthy. Price $3 per M.; 50c. per hundred.
Clark Farm, Concord, Mass.

TRAP NESTS.

THE IDEAL shows the hens that lay the eggs, and the number of eggs they lay. Plans sold on approval. Circulars free.
Frank O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Maine.

TURKEYS.

TURKEY CULTURE, just out, giving the experiences of the most successful turkey raisers in the United States. Every turkey breeder should have one. Price 50c.
Excelsior Wire & Poultry Supply Co.,
26 and 28 Vesey St., New York city, N. Y.

WH. Holt, turkey eggs, $2 for 10, from fine large breeders. Oakland Farm, Bethesda, Ohio.

EGGS, MAMMOTH BRONZE, 90 per cent fertile guaranteed, $3.50 per sitting.
C. Adell Kayner & Co., Lockport, N. Y.

WANTED.

COMPETENT MANAGER, experienced in all branches poultry, wants to make change. Correspondence invited from owners desiring practical man; new plant preferred. Address Editor F.-P.

WANTED—Two poultrymen. Must have thorough knowledge raising broilers, ducks and pigeons. Age 22 to 35, single. None but honest, sober, trustworthy men need apply. Wages $40 per month, nothing found. "Secretary," care F.-P.

WANTED, a man familiar with the poultry business to start poultry farm near best markets of this country between New York and Philadelphia. I will furnish the use of house and 18 acres of ground and some cash to the proper party, who must put his time and work against use of property and cash and agree for his compensation to take half the profits; a good home and opportunity for a married man.
Address "Opportunity," care Farm-Poultry.

WANTED—Two assistant poultrymen. Must have thorough knowledge of incubators, dry picking, raising broilers, ducks and pigeons. Must be thoroughly experienced in dry picking. Age 30 to 40, single. None need apply excepting those who have worked on first class poultry farm. No letters answered, unless more than one year's reference. Wages $50. Not blue found. "Secretary,"
care Farm-Poultry.

WYANDOTTES.

PARTRIDGE WYAN., New York, Boston winners. First, great Brockton show; fashionable coloring; show birds. C. Loring, Dedham, Mass.

SILVER Pencilled Wyandottes, five first prizes great Boston show, greatest layers, greatest beauty, greatest demand. C. Loring, Dedham, Mass.

TWINING'S Poultry Yards, Yardley, Pa., White Wyandottes exclusively. Fresh and fertile eggs, one dollar for thirteen; five dollars per hundred.

BUFF Wyandottes, Dutcher and Piser strains. Eggs $1 per 15. E. C. Fenn, Ware, Mass.

PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTES. 4 breeding pens of winners; look up winnings. Eggs $2 per 15; hours: dealing. Cook Brother, Yalesville, Ct.

PARTRIDGE WYANDOTTES, heavy layers and prize winners. A few sittings of eggs from pr zecbirds at $2.50 per 13. Correspondence invited. Pine Ridge Poultry Farm, P. O. Box 139, Waban, Mass.

WHITE Wyan. Good, strong, white, healthy birds, winners at Hagerstown and New York. Eggs $2 per sit. D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

BUFF and Sil. Wyan.; best of blood. Eggs, 13, $1.50; 30, $3. H. S. Griswold, Woodbury, Conn.

WHITE WYANDOTTES, handsome birds; heavy layers of dark brown eggs; prize winners among them. Eggs $1.50 for 13; $2.50 for 26.
G. W. Haines, Whitestone, L. I.

MY White Wyandottes are prolific winter layers of large dark brown eggs. $1 per 15.
W. Thompson, Pine View P. Yards, Beverly, Mass.

BUFF WYANDOTTES. For this season I have mated a very choice pen of Buff Wyandottes headed by a full brother to the first prize cockerel at New York and Boston, 1903. A limited number of eggs at $2 per 15. Arthur H. Sagendorph,
Spencer, Mass.

SATISFACTION Silver Laced Wyandottes. They win and lay for me. Satisfaction guaranteed. Eggs $1.50 sit. R. G. Williams, Barre, Mass.

HEALTHY, vigorous utility stock of White Wyandottes. Prolific layers; $1 sitting; $4 per 100. E. F. Comess, Mattapan, Mass.

WHITE Wyandottes, choice hens with vigorous pure white males; $1.13 eggs; $2 for prize premium stock eggs. Henry M. Hacker, Lynn, Mass.

S. L. Wyandottes, prize winners, score 90 to 94½; pen by Felch, 185½. Eggs from winners $1.50 sitting. Mrs. Clarence Hale, Bernardston, Mass.

GOLDEN AND SILVER Laced and Buff Wyandottes. Fine stock and eggs at fair prices. Birds returnable if not satisfactory. Breeder 18 years. F. S. Tenney, Peterboro, N. H.

13 PRIZES on 13 entries is the record made by my White Wyandottes at New York, Jan. 6—10, 1903. Eggs $5 for 15; $12 for 45.
W. F. Graves, Box A, W. Springfield, Mass.

WHITE Wyandotte eggs $2 per sitting. My birds and my customers' birds have won in largest shows for several years wherever shown. Come and see my breeding pens.
Horace W. Holton, 54 Waite St., Maplewood, Mass.

EGGS from 500 stay White Wyandottes kept in colony houses on six acre wood lot, free range, 7 cts. each. Niagara Poultry Farm,
Rausonville, N. Y.

BUFF Wyandotte eggs, 15 for $1; $5 for 100, from prolific laying, healthy farm raised stock.
Mrs. Louise S. Moulton, Rutland, Mass.

SULLINGS' Cyclone strain of White Wyandottes always win wherever shown. Eggs $1 per sitting; $6 per 100. Hill Top Poultry Yards, Malden, Mass.
H. E. Sullings, prop.

SPLENDID PRIZE WINNING Buff Wyan. exclu. Eggs for hatching, $1.50 per 15; $8 per 100. Fred E. Rockwood, Reeds Ferry, N. H.

WHITE Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching, prolific laying strain of brown eggs. If you are interested in this popular breed don't fail to send for cir. and prices. Am. White Wyandotte Yards,
C. A. Paine, proprietor, Brandon, Vt.

WHITE Wyandotte eggs from Boston prize pen, 213 egg strain; greatest layers in the world; are correct Wyandotte shape, yellow legs, bay eyes, standard weight or over. Snow white, and stay white, $1.50 sitting; $7 per 100, as good as money can buy. One pen direct from Castle Farm, Charles River.
J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

BLUE Ribbon W. Wyand. and S. C. W. Leghorns. Scored 90 to 96 at New Bedford, 1903, 3 silver cups. Eggs $2, 13. Stock $2 up.
J. & W. D. Entwistle, North Westport, Mass.

20,000 EGGS for hatching from large vigorous, blocky, yellow legged, utility White Wyan.; $4 per 100; great layers; strong fertility. C. A. Stevens & Co., Box 8, Wilson, N. Y.

BUFF WYANDOTTE eggs, $2, 13; $5, 40; $12, 100. Piser-Dutcher stock, 196 egg strain.
Dr. N. W. Sanborn, Box 366, Bellingham, Mass.

BUFF WYANDOTTES, that win first prizes at such shows as Atlantic City, N. J.; Cleveland, Ohio; and South Framingham, Mass., and win 4th and 6th place, and 1st and 2d prize on their eggs, at the great Boston show, 1903, prove they are good for the farm as well as the show room. Eggs from best pen $3. Send for catalogue. James W. Johnson,
Box A 177, Wellesley Hills, Mass.

W. AND B. Wyan., 184 prizes. L. H. Cowden, Fredonia, N. Y., will try to please.

PARTRIDGE Wyandottes, the coming fowl. Eggs $3 per 13; Best prize winning stock in state. Geo. K. Hazeltine, Concord, N. H.

BUFF Wyandotte eggs one-half price for 30 days Mattison & Dutcher strain. Best in the world, great layers, first prize winners only $1 sitting; $6 per 100. Money cannot buy better.
J. S. Gates, Westboro, Mass.

AMERICA'S best Buff Wyands. Our 1903 mating list explains. Piser & Riddell, Shushan, N. Y.

PARTRIDGE Wyan. Eggs $3 per 15, from yard headed by first cockerel at Elmira and Rochester, and special for best color, score 96½, by Drevenstedt. Cat. free. Hiler Bros., Box D, Prattsburg, N. Y.

BUFF Wyandottes. Eggs for hatching, 1 sitting, $1.50; 3 sittings, $4; 100, $8; incubator eggs $4.100. Circular free. L. E. Truesdell, Townshend, Vt.

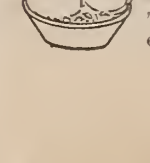
WHITE Wyandottes, Buston, eggs $1 for 15; $5 per 100. W. B. Gabiard, Delta, Ohio.

PART. Wyan. Richardson line c'k'ls $2; eggs $2. Wh. Wy. eggs $1. M. V. Allen & Son, Ovid, N. Y.

DR. HARWOOD, Chasm Falls, N. Y., breeds finest Partridge Wyandottes. Circulars free.

MACK brown egg strain White Wyandottes, standard bred, excellent layers. Eggs, $1 per 15; $5 per 100; $9 per 200; $12 per 300.
Arthur G. Simonds, Route 15, Hopkinton, N. H.

PARTRIDGE Wyan., exhibition birds in egg shells $2 per 15. Satis. H. N. Gurley, Milan, Mo.



Squabs Pay BEAT HENS
Easier, need attention only part of time, bring big prices. Raised in 1 month. Attractive for poultrymen, farmers, women. Send for FREE BOOKLET and learn this immensely rich home industry.
PLYM. ROCK SQUAB CO.,
6A Friend St., Boston, Mass.

NEWS NOTES.

The 1903 catalogue of the American Black Minorca Club is now ready for distribution. Copies may be obtained of the secretary, W. D. Davis, So. Framingham, Mass.

Mr. H. F. Lawrence, Lynnfield Center, Mass., who has been breeding R. I. Reds for some years, says that he recently gathered seventeen eggs in one day from a pen of seventeen Red pullets.

We have just received a copy of the 1903 catalogue of the White Plymouth Rock Club. Parties interested in this catalogue can obtain copies by addressing the secretary, Mr. J. Fred Crangle, Simsbury, Conn.

Mr. Geo. H. Frary, Charlemont, Mass., makes a specialty of White Wyandottes that lay big brown eggs. Mr. Frary says his eggs average so large that he cannot get the regulation number in his incubator unless he selects small ones.

By an error in making up one of the forms for our last issue the advertisement of R. H. Pierce & Co., Brockton, Mass., breeders of R. and S. C. R. I. Reds exclusively was omitted. To make such amends as possible for the oversight we call especial attention to their ad. in this issue.

Mr. R. C. Hinkle, of Millersburg, Pa., is a young breeder who has made a good start for a front rank position among the White Rock fanciers. Mr. Hinkle recently purchased a number of choice birds from Lehman Bros., of Elizabethville, Pa., and as they were going out of business got the pick of their stock.

Mr. C. A. Briggs, Taunton, Mass., has an ad. in this issue which will interest bargain hunters. Mr. Briggs has 400 White Wyandottes, including some Boston winners and some high priced birds recently purchased, which must be sold this month. His incubators and brooders are also offered at prices that will move them.

At the late Walla Walla, Wash., show the 1st ckl 93¼; 2d pul 93¾ (tied for 1st); 3d ckl 92½ (tied 2d); 3d pul, tie; 1st pen 185⅝; and silver cup were all won by chicks from one pair of Barred Plymouth Rocks — an Island Belle hen and a Milo cockerel bred and sold by E. L. Miles, Sag Harbor, N. Y. Hitchcock, judge.

Mr. Geo. P. Coffin, publisher and editor of the *Eastern Poultryman*, Freeport, Me., writes us that he has purchased *Blett's Poultry Pointers*, of Fenwick, Mich., and will consolidate with his paper. Mr. Coffin has been making a bright and instructive paper, and the increase of patronage which he secures with his purchase will doubtless have its due effect on the *Eastern Poultryman*.

A nice piece of recent advertising is the circular advertising both the International Stock Food Co., Minneapolis, Minn., and the great pacing stallion, Roy Wilkes, 2:06½, which is owned by this company. It has fine pictures for all who love horses, facts for all interested in horse racing, and just a little plain advertising. Write for the circular and mention FARM-POULTRY. Address as above, The International Stock Food Co., Minneapolis, Minn.

Monday evening, March 30, Dr. Cooper Curtice, of Kingston, R. I., addressed a large gathering of poultrymen at Northampton, Mass., on the subject of "Poultry Education." Our reports say that though the weather was bad there was a good attendance not only from Northampton but from neighboring towns. Knowing something of Dr. Curtice's views on this subject, and of his ability to present his views, we are sure those who attended could not fail to be pleased and instructed by his lecture.

At the regular meeting of the Bristol Poultry Association, April 1st, it was voted to give a score card show in the Armory, at Bristol, Conn., during the month of November; the same not to conflict with any other show in the state. It is expected that this will be the largest score card show in New England next season. The officers for the coming year are:— Pres., Judge W. H. Card. 1st vice-pres., Geo. W. Mitchell. 2d vice-pres., E. S. Freeman. Sec'y, G. W. Hull. Treas., O. J. Bailey; and the following executive committee—chairman, Earl Arnold, J. M. Burns, E. H. Hills, Fred Dimock, and Geo. Spencer. For further information write G. W. Hull, sec'y.

Circulars Received.

Neidpath Poultry Yards, Newton Cosh & Co., London, Can.
Robert T. Bourn, Templeton, Mass.
Beaver Hill Farm, T. E. Orr, Beaver, Pa.
J. Cook Johnson, Omaha, Nebr.
Crystal Poultry Farm, Wm. H. Cyphers, Washington, N. J.
J. C. Jodrey, Danvers, Mass.
Willowcrest Poultry Yards, F. W. Corey, Goshen, N. Y.
Grove Hill Poultry Yards, Wm. Ellery Bright, Waltham, Mass.
Hill Top Poultry Yards, H. E. Sullings. Malden, Mass.
American Orpington Club, Wallace P. Willett, sec'y, E. Orange, N. J.
National Exhibition Game and Game Bantam Club, W. W. Withee, sec'y, La Crosse, Wis.
The Stearns Ventilating Incubator, E. C. Stearns & Co., Syracuse, N. Y.
H. A. Hannum, Cazenovia, N. Y.
Niagara Farm, W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y.
Red Feather Farm, Frank Metcalf, Warren, O.
M. H. Lindsey, Northville, N. Y.
Victor D. Caneday, Taylor's Falls, Minn.
Wayside Poultry Farm, J. G. Peters, North Truro, Mass.
1776 Farm, C. E. Davis, Warner, N. H.
Piser & Riddell, Shushan, N. Y.
Rose View Farm, Brookville, Pa.
Montrose Farm, Mansfield, O.
Clovercraft Farm, W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa.
U. J. Shanklin, Waubeck, Ia.
Geo. Stahmer & Bros., Oak Park, Ill.

Operating the Incubator.

No matter what make of an incubator you have, you need our February issue containing a valuable article by Mr. H. E. Moss, (expert operator), telling how to run an incubator. It is beyond question the most valuable article on the subject ever printed. Have you failed with your incubator? This will tell you why. Is your machine doing just medium work? This will help you to do better. To every reader of FARM-POULTRY we will send a copy of this issue free on request, just to show you how good a poultry journal we publish. You will want it when you see it. Price 50 cents per year. February number free. Address, Poultry Keeper Publishing Co., Quincy, Ill.

A Barred Rock Record for December.

Editor FARM-POULTRY: — Following is a record of a pen of eighteen of my Barred Rock pullets for December, 1902:

These pullets were hatched the last of March or first of April, 1902, and began to lay in October, and have laid ever since. In December I kept a record of them. In all they laid 372 eggs, or an average of one dozen per day. They laid as low as nine per day, and once I got eighteen eggs in a day. At that time eggs were thirty-five and forty cents a dozen. I think that I have a profitable laying strain.

HENRY S. TWICHELL.

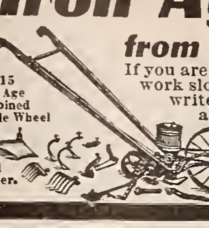
Brookfield, Mass.

A Real Necessity.

Just now it is most seasonable to call attention of readers to the new 1903 compressed air sprayer which the Rippley Hardware Co., of Grafton, Ill., are advertising in this paper. The special feature of the machine is that which gives it its name. A minute's pumping —it is claimed—will create sufficient pressure to discharge the entire contents of the five gallon sprayer in a fine mist like spray or a continuous stream. Besides this the sprayer is fitted with a safety valve which makes it impossible to pump the machine to bursting pressure. These sprayers are highly recommended for every variety of work for which a sprayer is designed to be used, and are a real necessity on either farm or poultry plant. In writing the Rippley Co. at above address kindly mention F.-P.

Iron Age Implements

from seed-time to harvest



If you are doing any kind of farm or garden work slowly, painfully and expensively, write and learn how quickly, easily, and cheaply you can do it with the proper Iron Age tools. The new **Iron Age Book** describes them all. Free.
BATEMAN MFG. CO.
Box 29, Grenloch, N. J.

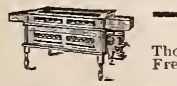
A Revolution in Methods

Why bother with eggs, a large percentage of which may be infertile? Why depend upon the "cranky" hen or an uncertain incubator, both of which methods necessitate time and invite probable disappointment? **After the hatch your chicken troubles have only begun.** For the first ten days or two weeks the little fellows fall easy victims to all kinds of ailments, and it is not unusual to lose half or even a greater number of those hatched.

BY OUR SUCCESSFUL PLAN

Of furnishing strong, healthy chicks, all discouragements are done away with, and your success is assured. Your sitting of eggs is already hatched, and **every egg** reaches you in the form of a **happy vigorous two weeks old chick,** at which age practical poultrymen concede they are "past the danger point." We also sell chicks from two to ten weeks old if preferred, at which latter age they are nearly matured and practically immune from disease. At the same time **newly hatched chicks** just from the incubator or hen, can always be had for less money, and **as nature provides proper and sufficient nourishment by absorption of the egg yolk for from 48 to 72 hours after birth,** *during this time they can be shipped in perfect safety hundreds of miles and without food.* We adopt **a lately discovered scientific method of packing and boxing which absolutely prevents chilling in the coldest weather or smothering on the hottest summer day.** We breed thoroughbred, market, and exhibition chicks at prices according to age, quality, and quantity. Detailed information furnished free on request.

VILLEVIEW POULTRY FARM COMPANY, Salem, New York.



INCUBATORS ON 30 DAYS TRIAL.

The World's Best Standard Hatchers. The Kind that never Fails. Thousands in successful operation at home and abroad. Catalogue with full particulars. Free.
(Please mention this paper).
STANDARD F. C. INCUBATOR CO., Rochester, N. Y., U. S. A.

MARKET REVIEW.

BOSTON.

[From Boston Produce Market Report, April 7, 1903].

Eggs.—Receipts are liberal, and there is a full supply offering, but the market has a firm tone. Average lots of western firsts are having a steady sale at 15c., with best marks of Mich., Ind., etc., ruling firm at 15¼c. Storage packed are in steady demand and firm at quotations, with some special known marks bringing a premium. Duck and goose eggs in light supply and steady demand.

Boston Fruit and Produce Exchange official quotations.

Quotations at Mark.

Nearby fancy	17..@
Eastern, firsts	15..@15½
Vt. and N. H., firsts	15..@15½
Mich., Ind., and Ills. firsts	@15¼
Western firsts	15..@
Western, fair to good	@14½
Western, seconds	14..@
Southern fresh	14..@14½
Western dirties	@13½
Duck eggs, nearby ℔ doz	30..@32
Duck eggs, western	29..@31
Goose eggs ℔ doz	70..@75
Storage Packed:—	
Western extra	15¾.@
Western firsts	15¼.@15½
Western dirties	13.½@

Dressed Poultry.

Receipts today	523 packages.
Same time last year	679 "
Receipts six days	2,293 "
Same time last year	2,087 "

Receipts are moderate today, but it is a rainy Tuesday, and trade is quiet. Prices are pretty well sustained, however, choice western fowls selling generally at 14½c. Old cocks selling well at quotations.

Frozen turkeys quiet and unchanged. Frozen fowls in full supply, and best lots in only moderate demand at 13c.

Fresh Killed Northern and Eastern.—	
Fowls, choice	15..@16
Chickens, choice roasting	20..@22
Chickens, common to good	15..@18
Broilers, nearby, 3 to 3½ lbs. to pair, ℔ lb	28..@30
Squab broilers, 1 lb. each, ℔ pair	75..@90
Pigeons, choice ℔ doz	$1.60@$1.75
Pigeons, common to good	1.00@ 1.50
Squabs, choice large, ℔ doz	2.75@ 3.25
Western Iced:—	
Turkeys, ℔ lb	15..@17
Fowls, choice	@14½
Fowls, common	12½.@13
Old cocks	10½.@11

GOV'T REVOLVERS, GUNS, SWORDS. Military Goods. New and old, auctioned to F. Bannerman, 579 B'w'y, N. Y. 15c Cat. m'l'd 6c.

GINSENG Book free, telling how to invest in Ginseng industry, and double your money. F. B. MILLS, Box 60, Rose Hill, N. Y.

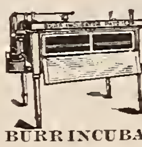
SHELLY'S 1903 CATALOGUE is a handsome book describing many leading varieties of high bred poultry. Famous strains from right breeding. Eggs and birds at right prices. A book for fanciers. Postpaid for 8 cents. Write for it.
P. C. SHELLY, BOX 13, FLORIN, PA.

White Wyandottes,

That are prize winners in strong competition, were bred from prize winners, and will breed prize winners. We have two pens of the very finest, and will sell a few eggs at $1 per 15. We have three extra nice cockerels at $4 each. Order from this ad.

PLEASANT VIEW FARM, Barre, Mass.

BURR'S PROMISE



We promise you the best incubator on earth, $6.50 up; all the latest improvements, no night watching, because we use our Five Inch Double Wafer Regulator. 30 days' trial. Send it back if you want to. Catalogue free. We pay freight.

BURR INCUBATOR CO., Box B, Omaha, Neb.

EGGS $2.50 PER 14

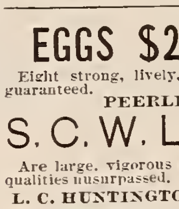
Eight strong, lively, exhibition quality chicks guaranteed.

PEERLESS STRAIN

S. C. W. LEGHORNS

Are large, vigorous and heavy layers; exhibition qualities unsurpassed. Circular free.

L. C. HUNTINGTON, Sta. A, Omaha, Neb.



Incubators and Brooders

Both Hot Air and Hot Water, built upon the highest scientific principles after an experience of 20 years. They never fail to hatch every egg that can be hatched. Send for catalogue to the

New Haven Incubator Co.
New Haven, Conn.

BLACK LANGSHANS

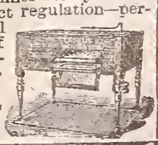
1st cockerel, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; 1st cockerel, Cleveland, O. Egg record, 217 per year.
Eggs $3 sitting; 2 for $5.

R. C. RHODE ISLAND REDS, Anderson strain.
S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS, Blanchard strain.
Eggs from last 2 varieties, $2 sitting.

GEO. BACHMAN,
Tannersville, Greene Co., N. Y.

You Will Not Fail in the chicken business if you start right with a **Successful** Incubator and Brooder.

Not experiments but machines with years of successful record. Perfect regulation—perfect hatches. Do not swell nor shrink. A variety of styles and sizes. Large incubator book (156 pages) free. Books in five languages.



Des Moines Incb. Co.,
Dept 14, Des Moines, Iowa., or Dept. 14, Buffalo, N. Y.

Western Frozen:—

Turkeys, choice....................18. .@
Turkeys, common to good ....15. .@17
Chickens choice ....16. .@
Chickens, fair to good............13. .@15
Chickens, common ....11. .@12
Fowls, choice ....13. .@
Fowls, common ....12. .@12½
Live Poultry.—Choice fowls are in light supply, and sell readily at 14c.
Fowls ℔ lb..............................14. .@
Roosters ℔ lb..........................7. .@ 8

PHILADELPHIA.

[From the Official Market Report of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange. April 7, 1903].

Eggs.—Arrivals have been moderate during the past few days, and the market has ruled firm, with a good demand that has absorbed all offerings of desirable stock. Duck and goose eggs are in small supply and steady, with a fair demand.

Penna. and nearby, returnable cases at mark ....@14½
Western, free cases, at mark ....@15
Southwestern, free cases, at mark.......@14½
Southern, free cases, at mark ....@14
Duck eggs..............................27. .@28
Goose eggs............................70. .@75

Dressed Poultry.— Receipts of fowls are light, and the market is firm, with a good demand for desirable stock. Fine soft meated chickens are scarce, and wanted at full prices, but offerings are mostly of staggy and otherwise unattractive stock, which is dull and weak.

Fresh killed:—

Fowls, choice ....@14½
Fowls, fair to good ....13½.@14
Old roosters ....@10½
Roasting chickens, fancy soft meated..........................16. .@
Roasting chickens, fair to good....14. .@15

Live Poultry. — Receipts of fowls are light, and the market is strong and higher, with a good demand. Winter chickens continue scarce and firm.

Fowls, hens ....15½.@16
Old roosters ....@11
Winter chickens, weighing 2@2½ lbs. apiece........................16. .@20

Feathers. — The market is quiet and unchanged.

Geese, prime domestic..............56. .@57
Duck, prime domestic ....27. .@29
Chicken, prime domestic ....4. .@
Turkey, prime domestic..............3½.@
Turkey tails, wings, and pointers........@10

NEW YORK.

Eggs.—At mark, nearby, state Penn. fresh gathered 14¾@15¼c.; west fresh gathered firsts 14¾c.; storage packed, 15¼c.; seconds, 14¼c.; Ky. 14 c.; Tenn., Ky. and southerly sections, 13¾@14¼c.; western ckls., 12½c.; dirties, 13½c.; duck eggs, Balt., 32c.; W. Va. and N. C., 30c.; for south, 21@25c.; goose eggs, 65@75c.

Dressed Poultry.—Dry packed turkeys 17c.; Phil. chicks 15@19c.; broilers, lb., 35@40c.; state and Penn. 14@16c.; west 13@14c.; fowls, 14c.; capons, 15@22c.; squabs, doz., $1.25@$2.50.

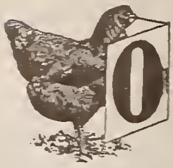
Live Poultry. — Fowls 15c.; roosters, young, 13c., old 10½c.; turkeys, 15c.; ducks, pr., 70c.@$1; geese, 90c.@$1.37; live pigeons, pr., 35@40c.

News Notes.

We learn from Messrs. E. M. & W. Ferguson, Fishers Island Farm, Fishers Island, N. Y., that their matings this season are all special, none but choicest birds being used in any of them; that eggs will be sold only from these matings, and no orders taken but what can be filled from them.

The reputation Conkey's Roup Cure has made since its introduction to the public is as good a recommendation as their later remedies, Conkey's Louse Killer and Conkey's Egg Food and Poultry Tonic needed to start with. Messrs. G. E. Conkey & Co. guarantee these remedies just as they always have the Roup Cure.

Reasons for Unsatisfactory Egg Yield.



ONE of the things about the business of egg production, which sooner or later nearly every poultryman experiences, is the failure one year of methods which were successful the previous, or perhaps several previous years. Every man who has been engaged in keeping poultry for eggs for a number of years has, at one time or another found himself wondering why his hens, with apparently the same treatment as they have had in other years, have dropped off 25 or perhaps 50 per cent in egg production.

Such instances are not rare, and in many cases the fowls have not only received the same general treatment, but the breeder has taken every precaution against the introduction of an inferior strain of blood into his flock. Although such an experience is a costly one, few men have been able to figure out the cause of poor egg production when they have as nearly as possible followed methods used with success in previous years.

There are doubtless reasons, could they but be reached. For instance, there is without doubt, an appreciable difference in the feeding value of the different grains grown under different conditions. Wheat grown in an extremely dry season has a different value for feeding than that grown during a normal season, or still different from that grown in an excessively wet season. The same is true regarding corn, oats and other grain, and this difference, although not noticeable to the casual observer, may exert a marked influence on egg production when fed to hens.

The weather may also have a direct influence in the same direction in its effects on the season's hatch of chicks. Unseasonably hot weather early in the season may possibly be as detrimental in its effects on early chicks as it is generally admitted to have on late hatched ones. Continued wet weather during a greater part of April and May may also keep the development of chicks back enough to affect the egg production of the pullets during the following winter.

Variation, apparently so slight as to be not worth noticing in the fall treatment of the pullets may also have an ill effect on egg production. For instance, if they are kept outside the roosting coops until the weather becomes uncomfortably cold, thus throwing them back at a critical time, thus, perhaps, postponing the beginning of egg production for several weeks.

How often pullets contract slight and apparently harmless colds late in the fall before being transferred to the quarters they are to occupy during the winter, and yet it is possible for just such a slight cold to delay egg production until the season is so far advanced that those pullets will not pay a profit.

In no other business will it pay better to have a system and stick to it than in raising and keeping fowls for eggs. Not only should the system chosen be closely adhered to, but the poultryman should be able to exercise good judgment in the purchase of his feed, judging something of its worth by a knowledge of the conditions under which it was grown, if possible. He should also know and take advantage of weather conditions as affecting his chicks in the spring or the pullets in the fall.

With the same feed ration and as nearly as may be the same line of general treatment laid out, a flock of hens will sometimes prove a disappointment one season as compared with another for no other reason than that the feeding is intrusted to two different persons. It is a well known fact that the one who succeeds best with hens is one who by observation knows when they are being fed too much or too little and who makes the amount of food given a matter of judgment. When hens have been fed by such a person and are then turned over to the mercies of one who simply feeds a given amount without thought as to its effects, the result, unless by pure chance the right amount happens to be struck, is disappointing.

While regularity of feeding and uniformity of diet are desirable, the right of exercising judgment as shown by the results attained must always be reserved, and the person who lacks the capacity to exercise judgment in that respect is not likely to be uniformly successful in the business.

The work of caring for a large flock of hens kept for egg production is an occupation in which strict attention to details is a potent factor in the success or failure of the venture. Carelessness regarding details is perhaps responsible, more than any other one thing for an unsatisfactory egg yield, and if persisted in means eventual failure. Any business which loses even one cent a day cannot endure, a fact that every man engaged in the poultry business should never lose sight of.

The several reasons given here for disappointing egg yields are all mere details when taken separately, and it follows that in order to succeed in the highest degree, the man or woman engaged in the egg producing branch of the poultry business must not only keep them in mind, but also to act quickly and with good judgment when unsatisfactory results would be avoided.

HENRY L. ALLEN.

Some French Tests.

I have just been reading the preliminary report of a joint commission appointed by the Paris Medical Society, and the Contracting Painters' Association, of the same city, to determine the comparative value of white lead and zinc white as paints. The tests, some thirteen in all, were made at the Pasteur Institute, and are intended to settle, finally and forever, all disputes regarding the comparative value of these two paint bases.

Some of the comparative tests were made on a plastered wall, interior and exterior; others on exposed sheet iron panels; others on iron window shutters, and still others on the outside of wooden doors and posts. In each case corresponding portions were painted with lead and with zinc.

The present report has to do only with working properties and physical qualities of the two pigments, but the commission has agreed to meet annually at the Pasteur Institute to determine the comparative durability of the tests, and their conclusions on this point will be published later.

Their present conclusions are interesting and somewhat surprising to those who know of the paint question only by hearsay.

First they insist that, for satisfactory results, the zinc must be ground with pure linseed oil and the driers and turpentine added carefully. The drier used with the zinc was a manganese drier exclusively. Secondly, they found that zinc requires more oil than lead, and that a pound of the pigment consequently goes further. Third, there was no perceptible difference in the working qualities of the two pigments; fourth, that the covering powers (opacity) of the two was practically the same; and finally, that the drying properties of the two paints as prepared by them were equal.

These conclusions are very much at variance with the opinions freely expressed by American painters; but accord precisely with the facts as demonstrated by American paint makers, who use enormous quantities of zinc in producing their paints, and make them to work, cover and dry exactly like white lead with a considerable saving in the quantity of material required to do a given job.

The point of endurance has long since been settled in practice; but it just as well that these French authorities should confirm by careful observation the superior endurance of zinc.

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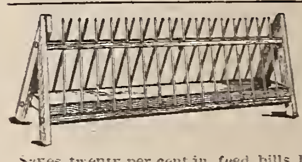

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A First Experience in Raising Chicks in Brooders, 1902.

[Continued from page 206].

previous study. I must confess that my "hen fever" got a bad chill, but having launched in the business I decided to go ahead cautiously, and fortunately my bump of caution is fairly well developed so far as the poultry business is concerned.

I am convinced that many have met with failures and loss by engaging in the poultry business on a large scale, without any previous experience, and I am pleased to note that the advice of FARM-POULTRY is so conservative in this respect.

A recent writer sagely remarks that "Experience is a good teacher, but charges like a specialist."

After much study and consultation with my son, who is interested with me, we decided to build a brooder house specially adapted to the purpose. Our next step was to order the lumber for a house 25 ft. long by 12 wide, with a double pitch roof; the back wall being 6 ft. high, and the front 4 ft. It is divided into five pens, with a walk 3 ft. wide in the rear of the brooders, and it will accommodate five Peep-o'-Day brooders such as I am now using.

Having got the house built, the next question to be solved was the best system of heating to be used for a small plant. (I see that FARM-POULTRY has decided that "plant" is a proper term to use in this sense, though not an "axiom.") My first plan was to use hot water to heat the house and brooders, but upon investigation I found that the apparatus and cost of running it would be too great an expense.

Besides, I was advised by an experienced breeder in this city, who had used both systems, that he got the best results from "individual" brooders warmed by a lamp. Probably for a large plant where the manager devoted his whole time to it, the hot water system would be all right and more economical. I took the advice of my friend and bought the Peep-o'-Day brooders. My experience has taught me, however, that any brooder that is not self-regulating needs a good deal of attention to keep the temperature at the right degree. If the weather changes suddenly it will affect the temperature in the brooders in a short time, unless the house is kept warm.

From our experience last year the writer and his son have agreed to take turns in the night and tend the chickens for the first two weeks after hatching. We also learned to adjust the flame of the lamp so as to keep the temperature at the proper degree through the day time, and then by closing the ventilators in the top of the hover it will not vary much during the night.

Our first lot of seventy chicks were taken from the incubator March 10th, and put in two brooders in the house. A few of the weak ones died in a few days, but the others were as lively as crickets and grew finely. The next lot of forty were hatched the first of April. As we only had two indoor brooders at that time, we took the chicks from one of them and put them in the outdoor brooder mentioned above, in order to make room for the little ones. Here the first serious mistake was made, and trouble began. In a few days several of the chicks in the outdoor brooder had lost the use of their legs, and eventually died. The floor under the hover was too hot, and prostrated them. I think the whole flock would have been lost had we not promptly taken them out and put them in a new Peep-o'-Day in the house. We condemned the old brooder, and changed it into a summer coop, for which purpose it answers very well. The best brooders are the cheapest in the end.

Our last brood of seventy was hatched April 25th, and were all put into one brooder. This was another costly error, as they were crowded, and contracted a disease from which many of them died.

Many of the brooders on the market that are advertised to accommodate one hundred chicks are about right for fifty. It is poor economy to overstock any brooder or pen. Pure air, cleanliness, and sunlight are as essential for the health and growth of chicks as they are for children. These are some of dame nature's imperative laws, and cannot be violated safely.

In regard to feeding, I have learned by experience that there are no hard and fast rules to be given. One must be governed by the condition of his flocks and the object to be attained. They want enough of good nutritious food mixed with a little common sense for spice, and to be fed a little at a time and often when young. The appearance and actions of the chicks are the best guide. Last year I fed soft food almost wholly to our earlier chicks, but with later hatches substituted the dry feed mentioned below.

In conclusion,—what has been learned by the experience of the past year? Let me recapitulate. In the first place I have learned that suitable buildings and fixtures are essential for raising early chicks for broilers. Secondly, the stock must be strong and vigorous and well hatched. Thirdly, for the first four or five weeks they must be kept warm and carefully fed with good wholesome food. In our experience the following feed has given the best results. For the first two weeks give them in the morning johnnycake made of corn and oats ground together, wheat bran, fine feed, linseed meal equal parts, and about ten per cent animal meal. This is mixed up with milk or water and baked hard, and then ground up fine. The chicks are very fond of this cake. The next meal is either cracked wheat or corn; then a handful of millet seed thrown in the chaff to keep them busy scratching. After they are two weeks old the johnnycake may be omitted, and a mash, dry as possible, made of the same materials substituted. Fourthly, I learned that it was of little use to doctor sick chickens. In this case an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Lastly, I found that it would not do to neglect them. Constant care and watchfulness is the price of brooder chickens.

Auburn, Me. J. W. WEST.

Trouble With Brooders.

Editor FARM POULTRY:—Our first hatch came off Feb. 28. We had bought some new brooders, and when the chickens begun to hatch I fixed up one of them and kept it running all day. I covered the floor of the brooder with cloths, then on top of that put wheat chaff, but I could not get it warm enough. But I thought it would surely be all right, and put the chickens—eighty in number—into it. Next morning several of them were dead, and about one-half of them could not stand up.

We brought them in the house and warmed them up. We had forty more chicks of the same hatch, and, not being able to use the new brooders, I was obliged to put them all together, as I only had one other brooder. They died till I have only about twenty-five left. When we open those that die we find their lungs in bad shape, being filled up with hard yellow substance more like the yellow of hard boiled egg than anything I know of, but lighter.

We have another hatch one week later. We got another brooder and put it in the same house, but never allowed the chicks to get very close together, but the last few days these are beginning to die too, and their lungs are just like the others. Now what I want to know is—did these last ones take the disease, whatever it is—from the first ones? Is there anything we can do to save the last ones?

G. C.

Unless it is certain that the brooder in which the second hatch were put was run right it seems as reasonable to suppose that the lung trouble—a "temperature" disease—was from the same cause as that it was contracted by contagion from the first lot. It was a serious mistake not to have the brooder in working order in advance of the hatch. It is even more important to be sure of the working of the brooder than of the incubator, and seems quite as necessary to warm up and run the empty brooder long enough before the hatch is due to allow for correcting troubles with it, as to run an incubator to keep temperature before putting eggs in it.

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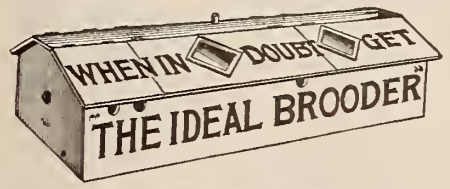

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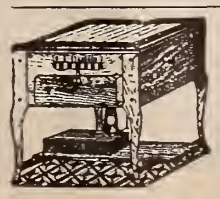

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On a Maine Farm.

Editor FARM-POULTRY:—I intend to put up a 100 ft. hen house as soon as the frost gets out of the ground. I think of building one continuous house 100 x 14 ft., with double pitched roof, and divide the inside into pens with wire netting—no walk. The house will face south, roosts on north side, droppings boards and nests under roosts. Back of roosting place and overhead roosts is to be sheathed on inside of studs. No floor but sand. Think of putting three ventilators in the roof. Think it will let out steam so the moisture will not gather on inside of roof. Think of covering with good quality of roofing paper, as it will keep the wind out better than shingles. Shall paint the paper. The paper will cost me here about as much as shingles.

The house will be located about 150 feet from my dwelling house and stable, on the side of a gravelly hill in a small fruit orchard of about one acre of land. Shall fence it with wire netting, and divide it up into runs for the different kinds of poultry. Have a good small farm of 50 acres, that keeps four cows, six hogs and a horse. The cows are paying well. Sell the cream, so do not depend wholly on hens for a living. Shall gradually increase the hens to fill the new house, if they do well. At present shall use part of house to store farming tools in. Now if you can offer me any advice on the subject it will be thankfully received. D. D. C.

My advice would be: First—Not to build more hen house at present than is needed. If storage room for farm implements is required, why not make a shed just suitable for that purpose? Then if after a season or two of use of the poultry house, it is found advisable to have additional house room for poultry built differently, the expense of the whole will be less than if more hen house than is needed now is built at this time, as there will be no remodeling to do unless changes to be made are of value to justify remodeling the first hen house.

If a house 100 ft. long is built do not use all wire partitions, but have at least one tight partition midway of the house. I would rather have two tight partitions about equally distant from the ends, and from each other. In a long house open throughout there is too strong a current of air when the wind blows into the house.

For ventilation I would have openings in front of the house rather than ventilators in roof. The house I described in the issue of F.-P. for July 1, 1902, suits me well. Using leaves for litter, and no droppings boards, I have that house looking clean and smelling clean all the time, though I let it go without cleaning for weeks and months at a time. This past winter it went from November 1st until well on in March, say twenty weeks, without cleaning. No other houses on the place had any droppings or anything else (but eggs) taken out of them for that period, except one small house with board floor, which was cleaned every few days.

Had I had droppings boards in all pens it would have taken me at least fifteen minutes a day, or an hour and three-quarters a week to clean out. For twenty weeks that would be thirty-five hours. It took less than three hours to clean the houses up, removing droppings and the soiled and broken litter mixed with them. There was a saving of thirty-two hours. That was for less than a hundred hens, for a little over one-third of the year. On this basis anyone can figure out what it costs him to use droppings boards.

Another point Mr. C. might well consider before he puts up a 100 foot house on a farm is whether he can give the hens as much run as they can use to advantage from that house. The more I compare conditions as I find them in long houses and in detached small houses, taking one season with another, the more I favor two or three pen houses, especially when they have large yards attached.

The continuous long house plan requires narrow yards. Then to get good sized yards you must have long yards, and in a long narrow yard you get the highest cost, per area enclosed, for fencing. With large and wide yards, too, you can use lower fences. I have Dorking hens that could easily fly a six or seven ft. fence that do not attempt to cross a three ft. fence.

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Fowls vs. Friends.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—Can a man keep a few thoroughbred fowls without becoming a social outcast? Have you the time to listen to my sad story? It is a heartrending, but, I think, a common experience, and of interest to those who are about to embark in the calamitous business of trying to keep a few hens and their friends at one and the same time.

About me on all sides are people of kindly natures who own, but care nothing for or give no care to, their scrub flocks. They may go out to the coops once a day if they have nothing else to do and throw the poor scrawny things a handful of whole corn or some table scraps, but absolutely nothing else goes into the hill of fare. The hens must hustle for grit,—and even water,—and such things as oyster shells, charcoal, mashes, dust boxes, are unheard of. When spring comes and some misguided biddy wants to sit her owner will run around to the neighbors and exchange sittings of eggs. One of their fundamental rules (and, I think, the only one) is, *never* to set their own eggs. And here is where my trouble begins.

When I settled here some three years ago, I was at peace with all mankind, but I had determined to have a few hens, and I went against all traditions of the place by paying real money for the eggs I set, and getting the best I could. I would not—even today—let it be known here how much I paid for them. As it is I understand I came very near having the honor of entertaining a committee appointed to inquire into my sanity, and if they knew even now that I paid five to eight dollars for eggs I would surely have to go to the asylum.

However, I got the eggs and hatched them. You can guess the rest.

I have four brothers-in-law, same number of sisters-in-law, and as sure as spring comes around they are all seized with the idea that they would condescend to accept a sitting of my Buff Rock eggs to add a little variety to the color of their flocks. I have men drive up to the door, ring the bell, and calmly hand out a quarter and ask for a sitting of eggs from "them ere yellow hens." I had the motorman on the trolley ask me to loan him a sitting hen with eggs accompanying the same.

From both sides, up and down, I am besieged and harassed morning, noon and night. When I tell them I paid high prices for my original stock, and will sell them eggs at $2 per sitting, they vanish as mist before the sun; but when they are gone I think I hear faint sounds that seem to resolve themselves into such words as robber, thief, etc. I do not want to be or appear anti-social. I would much prefer to live on friendly terms with my relatives and neighbors, but in order to do so it seems I must get rid of my hens or exchange thoroughbred stock for mongrels. For pay for them they *won't*, and have them they will.

In conclusion I want to warn any young man who thinks of keeping a few hens when he settles down in a little home of his own, either to get poorer stock than his neighbors, or prepare to be an Ishmaelite, or marry an orphan. E. A. W.

This is a case where I don't feel competent to advise, because I have had no such experiences with relatives, and my disposition is such that the attitude of other people in matters of this kind never worries me. I have an impression though that when Mr. W., either by sales of stock or by winnings at shows, makes it appear to his friends and relatives that his stock has a value which theirs has not in the eyes of others as well as in his own, these neighbors will take a more reasonable view of the case. To the eyes of those not initiated into the mysteries of requirements for standard bred fowls, all fowls look alike.

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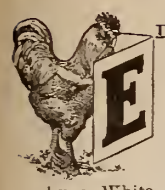
From One Who Dresses Reds for Market.



EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—In the March 15th issue of F.-P., I read with considerable interest two articles on the relative merits of the White Wyandottes and the Rhode Island Reds, one by a White Wyandotte specialist, the other by a market man. If you will allow me a short space in your columns I will endeavor to give my opinion on the subject under discussion.

In the latter article Mr. Silloway says: "The Reds are longer bodied than the Wyandottes, are less blocky and therefore possessed of less breast meat. The latter characteristic I have noticed especially in the cockerels, and the color of the skin is almost invariably of a bluish or slaty cast."

Here is where I differ with him: I have bred R. I. Reds for a number of years, and have dressed a great many for market, but I have yet to see a R. I. Red with a bluish or slaty colored skin; and as to the breast meat, a Wyandotte at the broiler age will have more bone perhaps, but much less breast meat.

That the Reds are longer bodied, I agree, but the bone is not so coarse, and has more meat covering it.

As to the laying qualities mentioned by Mr. Platt, I find that the Reds have more good qualities for layers than the Wyandottes—in that they mature and will lay a month or six weeks earlier, that they will stand more cold weather and keep laying, and that they will not get overfat when given all the feed they need.

That the White Wyandotte is popular, I admit, but the Reds are pushing them hard in many localities, and the day is not far distant when the Reds will be the leading classes at all our largest poultry shows.

Mr. Platt calls them mongrels—Webster defines a mongrel as an animal of a mixed breed; if this be the case, are they any more of a mongrel than the White Wyandotte?

The famous Barred Plymouth Rock was once called a mongrel, but they have stood the test a good number of years; and so it will be with the Reds.

They have come to stay, and poultrymen are but beginning to see that there is actually more profit in a flock of R. I. Reds than any other variety. ROBERT C. TUTTLE.

Hartford, Conn.

"Live and Let Live."

WOULD that I could do something to relieve the pent up agony of some of the Red critics. Think what distress this gentleman must be laboring under when he attempts to prove the Reds "the Great American Mongrel." The struggle these people are making reminds me of the days when we first started breeding Plymouth Rocks. There was only one variety then—the Barred.

That was thirty years ago, or near it. I remember that shortly after that we began taking the *Poultry World*, and we enjoyed watching the progress of the then "Great American Mongrel." The struggle was then bitterer than now. Time passed on, and the same people who were making the most noise about mongrel Rocks began throwing their hats in the air for the best fowl the world had produced up to that time. We almost thought that the mission of the grinders had ended. But, lo, another mongrel appeared, and the American Sebright hove in sight. Then the grinders sharpened their teeth and went at it again.

Well, the boys got together and christened the new mongrel the Wyandotte. While we consider the Wyandotte a valuable acquisition, there are others that claim they are still mongrels. Why, do you know, Mr. Critic, that if want of shape disqualified not over ten per cent would score 85 points at all our shows. I am writing about the Wyandotte now. Over at Lynn last winter there was a beautiful show of Whites, and right in the midst of all this splendor there stood a bird with two prize ribbons on his pen that was the filthiest bird I ever saw, either in a show room or outside. Notwithstanding this filth, a gentleman having prize birds on the floor bought him. I asked him what he bought the bird for. His answer was: "That is the only bird on the floor having ideal Wyandotte shape. I would have paid three times the price I did rather than give him up."

Looking at the mongrel question in the light of present conditions, I should say—"There are others." Mr. Platt says outward appearance counts a great deal nowadays. Right you are, brother. Look at the Reds without prejudice in your heart, and you will say so.

Again, you say the Reds shown at Madison Square Garden were the pick of the flocks. Were not Wyandottes there also the pick? You say you have no quarrel with Mr. Baerman if he likes the Reds. You will find that no member of the R. I. Red Club will quarrel with you or your Whites if you let the Reds alone, and whether you do or do not, the Reds will get there just the same.

JOHN F. DAVIS & BRO.

Marblehead, Mass.

Clover vs. Succulent Vegetables for Green Food.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—In the current number of *The Feather*, an unsigned article, presumably written by the editor, or one of the paper's regular staff, on the subject of "green foods" has the following to say with regard to feeding cabbage, turnips, beets and other green vegetables during the winter months:

"So far as we know clover hay is the best substitute for green food for the hen, and *cabbage about the worst*, (the italics are my own) and the facts are that hens get too much cabbage and not half enough clover."

The writer continues: "As for cabbage, it is largely water, and contains but little of anything desirable for food. Cabbage has 90% water, turnips 93%, and their food value to the hen is scarcely one-fourth of what clover will be." Further on he says, "Both cabbage and turnips have a tendency to injure the flavor of eggs when fed to any extent." Then comes the following remarkable statement: "If all vegetables were well cooked before feeding them to the hens, it would be better, providing the water they are cooked in is not mixed into the food." And more in same strain.

It is an old saying anent the medical profession, that "doctors differ and patients die," and I cannot help thinking after reading the above that experts on poultry feeding who give the tyro their advice in print, differ as radically, and the consequence is not exactly the deaths of laying pullets, but a wonderful difference in production of eggs. Now I have always supposed, and have been so instructed by FARM-POULTRY, that for winter green food there is nothing much better than good well kept cabbage, and with this idea we have been at some pains to raise upwards of three to four thousand head of cabbage and a large patch of turnips. You can imagine that housing the food is no easy matter. But we have done it so that our hens have had green cabbage all winter long. We are just opening our cabbage trench today, and find heads as crisp

FOGG'S S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS.

On 5 entries at Boston, 1903, I won 7 ribbons, including 1st yard, 1st cockerel, specials for best shaped male and female. The 1st prize hen was also bred and sold by me. I am forced to put my eggs this season at $5 per sitting; additional sittings $3. These will come from small matings for exhibition stock, headed by 1st prize Boston males.

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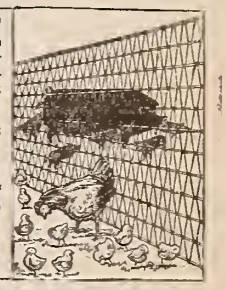

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INTERIOR VIEW OF POULTRY HOUSE

At Wyckoff's Grandview Poultry Farm, Aurora, N. Y.

Showing arrangement of roosts, droppings boards, and nests (above roosts) along rear wall of house, also method of constructing partition and door between pens.

and firm as celery and as white as driven snow.

Has all this labor and trouble been useless? It would have been far easier for us to have grown an acre or so of clover; much less bother to raise and cure and house. I should like to have your opinion as to the relative value of cabbage and clover, as I want to make my arrangements for growing what is best this coming season.

Then again, what about using the liquor of boiled vegetables in mixing up the mash? I've always used it, and the hens apparently like the mash. Of one thing I am perfectly sure, and that is that neither cabbage nor turnip taint the flavor of eggs. Most of our business is new laid eggs to private customers, and we hold and increase our trade simply because our eggs are unexcelled in quality and flavor.

However I am sure that the question of clover vs. cabbage as a winter green food for hens would be a subject that would be of vital interest to hundreds of your readers, and for that reason I would ask you to give the question a full discussion as soon as you can.

CHARLES E. CLAY.

A writer who cries down cabbage as a poultry food cannot be classed as much of an authority on poultry feeding. As a matter of fact cabbage has been found the best substitute for the succulent green food, grass, weeds, etc., which fowls get in summer when on grass range. No valid objection can be made to the use of cabbage as a winter green food, on the score of it being unfit for food, or containing too much water. Thousands of poultry keepers, for years past, have fed cabbage, all the hens would eat, and results have been as in Mr. Clay's feeding. Indeed, the fact that they contain water in such quantities is one thing that makes such vegetables as cabbage and beets so much relished by fowls.

If we object to cabbage on the ground that it contains so much water, we should also, to be consistent, object to the green grass which fowls eat in summer for the same reason. The analysis I have before me gives green grass, *clippings*, 78.4 % water. I cannot say that it is so, but I should judge that absolutely fresh green grass could show a larger percentage of water. We all know how quickly clippings, and in fact all cut grass dries, and how long the thick cabbage leaves retain their moisture.

The extensive use of cabbage for a winter green food for fowls occurs because it is the common vegetable (lettuce alone excepted) of which fowls have been found to be most fond, and it is easily raised as a late or second crop. When fowls show such partiality for an article as they do for lettuce and cabbage, we may expect to find that an examination into the qualities and properties of such vegetable will show a reason for this. And so we find it when we study the analyses of these vegetables and compare them with analyses of other articles of the fowls' food.

Both cabbage and lettuce have very narrow nutritive ratios. That means that they are comparatively rich in protein and poor in carbohydrates and fats. The grains and meals which constitute the bulk of the winter ration of fowls are so much more carbonaceous and so dry that a succulent substance rich in protein as cabbage is gives just the thing wanted for variety, and for the balancing of the ration by appetite.

I cannot say from experience in feeding how lettuce would be eaten by hens in winter if they had both lettuce and cabbage before them. In summer the lettuce comes first, and being very tender is eaten with avidity. When the cabbage comes later the fowls do not always eat it freely at first, especially if they have been well fed on lettuce. I found, though in feeding years ago, that in hot weather when hens, if allowed to do so, would fill up on green food and fall off on eggs, that they would lay better on all the cabbage they would eat than on all the lettuce. Later when I came to compare analyses of the two articles I found that while they had the same nutritive ratio an ounce of cabbage contained twice as much solids as an ounce of lettuce.

The strong argument for clover is in the cost, the ease of handling, the keeping qualities, and in that while not better than cabbage — in fact not so good as a winter green food— it is good enough so that the man who has plenty of good well cured green clover for his hens, can rely on that if necessary and need buy other things as cabbages, turnips, beets, etc., only when the prices suit him. It is better that the hens should have these succulent vegetables at least occasionally, but with good clover one can get along without them. Poor clover, or clover that was cut too ripe can hardly be considered a substitute for green food.

As to the liquor of boiled vegetables, I think that if anyone, leaving the vegetables out, will mix up two mashes just alike, except that one is mixed with the water in which vegetables have been boiled, and the other with pure water, he will find that the fowls prefer the first. Next thing we will have some one condemning fresh meat as containing too much water, and advising to throw away the liquor in which meat has been boiled rather than feed it to hens.

Star Chick Food.

Millions of little chicks are breaking their shells at this season; millions of them would have been more profitable to the owners had the eggs been used as eggs instead of hatched into chicks, because after all the trouble and experience of incubation, fifty per cent of the young chicks have been allowed to die. Several years ago, profiting by experience and experiments, the Star Incubator Company, having solved the question of artificial incubation, took up the study of the care and feeding of the chick after the incubator had done its work. It took but a short time to learn that poor food, more than poor care, caused the large death roll among young chicks. How to keep them alive, to make them grow strong and fast, and keep them healthy, was the problem. Years of study, and the solution was "Star Chick Food." Its friends made customers, and these brought others, till the cry for more could no longer be satisfied. The Star Incubator and Brooder Co., Round Brook, N. J., has been obliged to enlarge its feed building one-third, and to install two more mills to meet the demand of its Chick Food.

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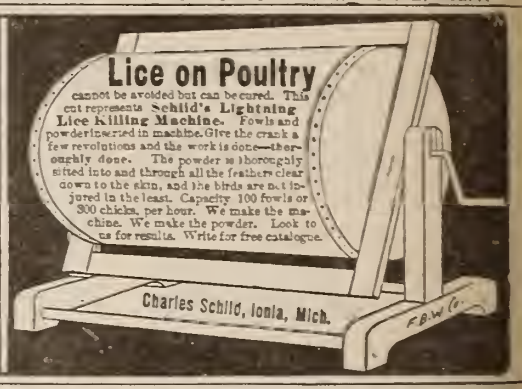

Lice on Poultry

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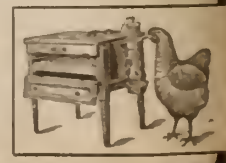

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Roofing Tin.

Statistics show that during the last three or four years, or since the American Tin Plate Company began to reform the methods of producing terne plates, the efforts of that company to reestablish the old time reputation of roofing tin have met with splendid success. The use of terne plate, especially of the higher grade brands, has increased to a very great extent, and this material is now largely preferred to other kinds of roofing material. The truth of the motto, "The Best is the Cheapest in the End," is recognized by the consumers.

When the American Tin Plate Company came into possession of all the larger tin plate works in the country, it also gained the services of the best experts in this branch of industry. The combined experience and knowledge of the latter, as well as of the experts engaged by the U. S. Steel Corporation, of which the American Tin Plate Company is a constituent, are at the disposal of the American Tin Plate Company. This fact, strict supervision, and the systematic mill practice which prevails in all of that company's works, enable it to produce material superior to all other makes.

The most favored brands at present are the "M F" old style and the "U. S. Eagle N. M.," but besides these the company makes a variety of other grades to suit various purposes and occasions.

The American Tin Plate Company's products are for sale by all first class wholesale metal houses.

Recently the company issued a very handsome little booklet entitled, "A Fifty Year Roof," which besides giving a succinct history and description of terne plate making, also teems with useful technical information. Mr. W. C. Cronemeyer, the Pittsburg agent of the American Tin Plate Company, 1211 Carnegie building, Pittsburg, Pa., will send this booklet postpaid free to all applicants.

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The *cure* for a disease usually costs about ten to one hundred times as much as prevention would have cost. It is usually hard to persuade a man to *prevent* ill health in himself, but when it comes to a question of his live stock and his own profits, it touches his reason directly through his pocket.

Poultrymen whose pockets have once been touched by trouble that might have been prevented, will read with much interest the little book on poultry diseases, which the West Disinfecting Co., Inc., of 26 E. 59th Street, New York, sends free on request.

Oakes' Incubator Supplies.

The cordial reception which has been given to the celebrated line of incubator supplies formerly manufactured by L. R. Oakes, of Bloomington, Indiana, has brought about a revolution in the business. Readers will note that the advertisement appearing elsewhere is now over the signature of the Oakes Manufacturing Company. The working capital has been largely increased, a company formed, and a large addition built to the factory. As now equipped the company is in a position to handle their rapidly growing trade, which had passed entirely beyond the capacity of the old plant. Their specialty is the manufacture of a superior line of incubator and brooder supplies, such as the Oakes' Hydro-Safety Lamp, the Oakes' Improved Wafer Thermostat, a new Aluminum Regulator, water tanks, heaters, egg testers, etc. The excellence of the goods turned out by this company is well known. If any of our poultry friends have trouble with their lamps, regulation of heat, or similar matters, there is no better place to go to have everything set to working right than the Oakes Company. They make it their special business to take old machines, and by placing in them their special features and superior devices, make them work as well, if not better, than when new. Most everything in the incubator supply line is to be had of them, and of their own making. They will be pleased to send their catalogue to anyone writing for it.

Belittling the Orpingtons.

FARM-POULTRY says: "We do not think it profitable to continue arguments against the probability of the white skinned, pale legged Orpingtons ever becoming popular on the farms and poultry farms of a country where the demand for generations back has been mostly for yellow skinned, yellow legged poultry. At another time and in another connection we propose to give some reasons why we think it probable that average Orpingtons are better in table qualities than average American specimens of American breeds." "The hope of popularity in this country for any breed that has not yellow legs and skin is a delusion that no level headed person who has come into close contact with consumers in various sections of the country could for a moment entertain."

Is not the extract printed above from FARM-POULTRY slightly contradictory?

We "think it probable" that Orpingtons "are" better in table qualities than —— American breeds. But we see little probability of the white skinned, pale legged Orpingtons ever becoming popular where the demand "for generations back" has been for yellow legged poultry.

Now why instead of "thinking it probable," does not the writer buy an Orpington dressed for the table, and test it by the side of the American specimens? The Orpington is not afraid of the test. And, what, for goodness sake, have "generations back" to do with the matter, anyhow? It is to the present generation and for the generations to come that the Orpington presents itself as the best winter layer of all breeds, and the best table fowl of all breeds, and until some one who has tested them in these respects steps forward and says they are not so, there is no ground for the theorist to stand upon.—*The Orpington.*

When the editor of FARM-POULTRY wrote the paragraph quoted above there was first incorporated in it a parenthetical caution to certain persons not to pick the admission up too eagerly, but to wait for what was coming. On second thought we blue penciled that. We wanted to see who would "bite."

But, really, we never so much as imagined that the first person to rise to the bait would be the editor of *The Orpington;* for if he recalled a conversation participated in by himself, Mr. Wm. Cook, and the writer at the New York show, he might easily guess upon what line the argument proposed would proceed. We can assure him that if he follows the matter to the end he will find nothing contradictory in the position of F.-P.

To answer his question, "Why does not the writer buy an Orpington dressed for the table, and test it by the side of the American specimens?" — Because questions as to general or average conditions cannot be tested either that way or by taking evidence of only one side of the case. The general question must be decided on the general reputation not only of the Orpingtons but of the breeds with which they are compared. No doubt such general reputation will indicate quite accurately the general quality.

Still another reason for not buying an Orpington dressed for the table is that in the markets to which we have access we neither see nor hear of them. If any come here, which we doubt, they are probably classed as seconds on account of their color. The other day we watched a poultryman packing a lot of fancy roasters to be shipped to Boston. Out of over two hundred birds, he had about a dozen that in color were about like Buff Orpingtons we have seen dressed. They were shipped as "seconds."

To us it seems in order at this juncture to ask why, if the Orpington boomers are so sure of the table quality of their fowls, they don't sacrifice a few of them to convince the skeptics and theorists? And speaking of theorists, where do you find them more visionary and less influenced by facts than where they get together and by taking thought expect to change off-hand deep rooted prejudices and long established customs?

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Poultry House Questions.

EDITOR FARM-POULTRY:—I wish to ask you a few questions concerning the building of a poultry house.

I contemplate building a poultry house this coming summer or the following fall. How large a house should I build for 100 to 125 laying fowls? How many fowls would a house 36 x 18 accommodate? Is an 18 ft. wide house too wide? Which is the most profitable style of house, the scratching-shed style or the kind without? Would it be necessary to have a separate house for Leghorns and Barred Rocks for best results? Which is the least expensive, a scratching shed house, or one without? Would it be best to keep the fowls in small flocks, say twenty or thirty each, for best results? H. S. T.

For 125 fowls you would want not less than 100 sq. ft. floor space. So you will see that a house 18 x 36 would be about what is necessary for area. A house 18 ft. wide would not be too wide if not more than 40 or 50 ft. long, and if used without partitions or with only one partition in the middle. It might even be made with more pens if the partitions did not obstruct the light and the circulation of air at the back part of the interior. If built wide the house must be high in proportion to give sufficient light and ventilation throughout.

As to size of flocks, it appears that the varying results which seem to come from different sized flocks are due to failure of the poultry keeper to adapt his methods and his judgment to different sized pens. Most poultry keepers find that they do best with small flocks of a dozen to two dozen hens. So on general principles I would advise Mr. T. to plan his house for 125 fowls for four or five flocks. At the same time if he prefers to try keeping them all in one flock and thinks he can adapt himself to the care of the large flock, he can keep them that way with less work.

If he builds for small pens he should have either one long house for all, or houses for one or two flocks, which is a matter of personal preference. The continuous house plan is still favored by most poultry keepers, and will be as long as they are satisfied with comparatively small yards. For my own use I prefer the houses either single or double, far enough apart to give ample room in wide yards.

If Mr. T. builds on the continuous house plan he can build an open house like that described in the July 1, 1902, issue of this paper for less than a scratching shed house of equal capacity would cost him. Four pens such as are described there would house his flock.

As to which kind of house is more profitable, that is a hard matter to determine convincingly. I doubt whether it would be possible to show to the satisfaction of a person accustomed to sift things to the last that this style of house was better than the scratching shed plan, or vice versa. The final test is results, and the results which must be figured in such tests depend on so many other things that absolutely convincing and final conclusions are rarely ever reached. It is quite impossible to so eliminate all other causes affecting results that we can be sure that certain differences in results were due to the style of house used and to nothing else.

I think the true way to look at the house question is to consider that provided the hens have room, light, air, and as much protection from the elements as is necessary, the house plan makes no difference to them, and that the varying features we find in houses are in reality put there to suit either the convenience or the whim of the poultryman.

A Request and a Fable.

AMONG letters of the kinds I frequently receive but rarely publish, there is occasionally one which seems to be more typical of its kind than others, and so better adapted to serve as a text for an explanation of some things which to some people seem unreasonable.

Here is one that came from Louisiana the other day:—

"Editor FARM POULTRY:—I write you this letter with the object of asking a favor of you. I want you to write me a personal letter and tell me what you really think is the best I could do for an incubator, and also a brooder. At the same time you might tell me what you think is the best breed of poultry to start with. I came down here several days ago with the purpose of starting in the chicken business on a small scale at first and gradually increasing until I could have a farm for true.

"Now I always liked a heavy fowl and one that would lay well at the same time. I have chosen Barred Rocks and Buff Cochins as my favorites, but I can't choose between them, and so whatever you say will go.

"I have heard that the 'Ringlet' strain of Barred Rocks was by far the best, but you know there are others. Is Mr. E. Thompson, at Armenia, N. Y., the originator of that breed, and would you advise me to purchase of the originator?

"Please give me your honest opinion of these things, and I promise that I will never use a word of what you say for a testimonial, wise or otherwise, in any way whatever. I was referred to you by one of your subscribers, —— —— of ——, Tenn.

"Please also send me a couple of the latest sample copies of your paper, and if it is my idea of a poultry paper I will remit for my subscription.

"I know that you can't answer all letters of this kind, etc., but please make an exception of that rule this time, and I'm sure it will be appreciated. I MEAN BUSINESS."

N. B. S.

Let me answer Mr. S. in a fable.

There was once an editor of a poultry paper who really thought he knew which was the best incubator, which the best brooder, which the best breed, which breeders it was best to buy of, etc. Further, in the utter openness of his nature, and guilelessness of his heart, he implicitly trusted unknown correspondents who asked him questions relating to these things, and promised solemnly that they would never betray his confidences.

So when people asked him about incubators, he sat down and wrote them that the Everlasting incubator was the best, and for fear they would not be convinced he told them of all the faults of other incubators which were not found in the Everlastiug. Likewise with brooders, but he did not even wait for inquiries about brooders, but in his paper and by letter, whenever there was an opening, he asserted the superiority of the Tropical brooder.

And in fowls the only breed worth mentioning was that he kept himself, and he sold to the correspondent if he could, or if not referred him to M. A. as a reliable and honest person, and cautioned him not to buy of X. and Y. and Z., because while it was not absolute y certain that they would "do" him, the editor feare l perhaps they might.

Now the Everlasting incubator was a very good incu ator, and the Tropical brooder was a very good brooder, and the breed of fowls which the editor kept was a very good breed, and his stock of it was very good. Also A. was an honest man and tried to deal fairly by his customers and give them good value for their good dollars. But as regards all these things and persons it is in order to remark that no one of them was quite perfect or infallible, and that even if they had been it would have availed them little unless the other parties to transactions in which they figured were equally so.

And in process of time the editor discovered that there are other things besides curses and chickens that come home to roost—namely, indiscriminate editorial confidences. Now and again one of his confidential letters would turn up in the hands of the last person on earth whom he had expected to see it. And not infrequently the very persons who had invited his recommendations would denounce him both directly to himself and to those parties who would be most incensed by seeing what he had written.

So the editor discovered in the end that to every man whatever he thinks best is best, and that so small a proportion of persons can think just exactly as any particular editor does in all things, that the safest plan, so far as the editor is concerned, is to let people decide for themselves what is best and what is not best, and thus keep himself clear of responsibility for matters beyond his control.

That is the fable about as far as it goes. The editor referred to is no particular individual, but a sort of composite of several. To be complete and consistent the fable should tell how, having arrived at an understanding of the case, the editor thenceforward avoided all such indiscretions; but the editors who began by committing such indiscretions in correspondence, don't seem to be able to get out of the habit. I judge from the things which still turn up occasionally.

As to myself, though reasonably willing to oblige other people, and somewhat prone to editorial errors of other kinds, long before I became editor of a poultry paper, I learned not to write things I would be unwilling to have published.

Poultry Association at Northampton, Mass.

The Northampton Poultry Association was organized early in March, with nearly fifty members including many of the best known fanciers in that vicinity.

These officers were elected:—

President—Dr. J. B. Paige, of Amherst.

Vice-presidents—G. Henry Clark, of Northampton; E. C. Riedell, of Easthampton; John Ray and Ralph Smith, of Amherst; W. R. Graves, of West Springfield; C. C. Fisher, of South Deerfield; Dr. H. P. Nottage, of Goshen; Frank M. Munson, of Greenfield.

Secretary—C. E. Hodgkins.

Assistant secretary—Alexander Proctor, of Northampton.

Treasurer—C. C. Lewis.

Directors—M. L. Graves, S. D. Drury, C. E. Hodgkins, C. W. Wetting, Donald MacGregor, J. H. Demond, R. B. Etsold, Geo. D. Clark, M. W. Graves, A. A. Lyman, G. F. Edwards, John and Samuel Simson, T. H. Todd, C. C. Lewis and C. H. Montgomery, all of Northampton; A. B. Roberts, of Easthampton; Joseph Brown, of Haydenville; Dwight Cowing, of Hadley; E. N. Fisher, of Ludlow.

Executive committee of four, chosen from the board of directors—John Ray, of Amherst, G. H. Clark; C. C. Lewis, and C. E. Hodgkins.

The membership fee was fixed at one dollar, and an invitation was extended to all poultrymen in that section of the state to become members of the association.

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A Saddle was returned at our expense a few days ago. Although it had been properly boxed, it was damaged by rats before being unpacked, according to customer's letter. Of course this was no fault of ours, but he got a new saddle just the same. Do you know of any other firm who would have given him the same liberal treatment? Why not buy your supplies from a firm with whom it is a pleasure to deal? All goods guaranteed and prices always lowest, quality considered.

Our next advertisement will show how the goods arrived. Watch and see if the packer told the truth.

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